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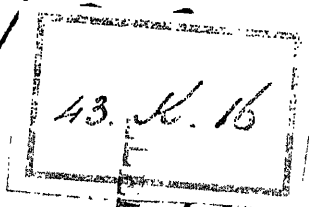
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A

GUIDE TO BENGAL:

BEING A CLOSE TRANSLATION OF

ISHWAR CHANDRA SHARMA'S

BENGALLEE VERSION OF THAT PORTION OF

MARSHMAN'S HISTORY OF BENGAL,

WHICH COMPRIZES THE RISE AND PROGRESS OF THE BRITISH DOMINION,

WITH NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS.

By MAJOR G. T. MARSHALL,

SECRETARY AND EXAMINER TO THE COLLEGE OF FORT WILLIAM.

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PREFACE.

In January, 1846, the Government of Bengal sanctioned and patronized the publication of two new Test Books for the examination of the Students of the College of Fort William in the Bengallee language, one of which, it was proposed, should be descriptive of Hindoo notions, such as the History of one of their celebrated Mythological or Classical personages, and the other should embody European ideas, such as the History of the British in Bengal or India. Accordingly two works were prepared by Ishwar Chandra Sharmā, namely, "Betāla Panchabingshati," being a translation of the Hindee work "Bytal Pachīsī," containing legends of Rājā Vikramāditya, and "Bāngalār Itihās," being a free translation of that portion of Marshman's History of Bengal which comprehends the rise and progress of the British Dominion in Bengal. Of this last Book the following work is a retranslation into English, published with the sanction of Mr. J. C. Marshman, the talented author of the original English work, and under the patronage of the Government of Bengal.

My principal objects in this undertaking have been, to give a specimen of close and accurate translation combined with a due regard to the idiom of the language translated into, and

to illustrate by notes the etymology and idiomatic peculiarities of the language translated from. I have added Notes and Observations bearing upon the Geography and Statistics of Bengal, and the opinions and customs of its inhabitants. Taking the work as a whole, it may be considered as conveying hints on a number of interesting subjects; and on this ground I have ventured to style it a "Guide to Bengal." It is no doubt a very imperfect *Guide*, pointing out only prominent paths, and not entering into details; but I trust it is correct as far as it goes, and that the hints it conveys may assist and encourage intelligent Students further to enquire and discover for themselves.

THE HISTORY OF BENGAL.

CHAPTER XI.

1. On the 10th of April, 1756, Sirajooddowlah (1) became possessed(2) of the throne(3) of Bengal and Behar. At that time the Emperor of Delhi had fallen into so low a condition, that the new Nuwab(4) did not think it any longer necessary to ask him for a deed of confirmation.(5) A. D. 1756.

2. On obtaining possession of the Government, the first thing he did was to send a force to carry off all the wealth of his paternal uncle's wife. His paternal uncle Nivaish Mahommed had during his sixteen years' government of Dacca, amassed immense riches; after his death(6) his wife became successor to all his property. The troops whom that widow woman had entertained to guard her possessions fled at the time for action.(7)

(1) সিরাজ্‌উদ্দৌলা *Sirājuddaolā* (Arabic سراج الدولة *Sirājuddaolah*) The lamp of the state.

(2) অধিকারী *adhikārī* Sanst. Having title or property, (from অধিকার.)

(3) The Vice-regal throne of course.

(4) নবাব *Nabāb* (Arabic نواب *Nawwāb*, superlative form of نايب *Naib*) a Deputy, a Viceroy.

(5) সনন্দ *Sanand* (Corruption of the Arabic سند *Sanad*) a Diploma, Warrant, Deed, Grant,—In Sanscrit the word শাসন *Shāsana* is commonly used in these senses.

(6) লোকান্তর প্রাপ্ত হইলে *Lokāntara prāpta hoile*: being gone to another world.

(7) কার্য্য *Kārjya*, (Sanst.) Duty, object.

A. D. 1756. Consequently the whole of her wealth was despatched, without opposition, to the Nuwab's palace, and she herself was easily expelled from the place of her abode.

3. Rajballabh (8) was the coadjutor of Nivaish Mahommed at Dacca, and had, according to the custom prevalent at the time of the rule of the Mahommedan (9) sovereigns, amassed great wealth by plundering the country. Nivaish departed this life at the commencement of the year 1756. At that time Alivardi occupied the throne, but had fallen into his dotage. Rajballabh being at that time at Moorshedabad, Sirajooddowlah, put him in prison, and sent off people to Dacca to confiscate all his property;—but Rajballabh's son, Kristna Das (10), having received the intelligence beforehand, took boat with all his property, and, under pretence of a pilgrimage to Gungasagar (11), or Jugernath (12), fled to Calcutta.

4. Kristna Das, having reached Calcutta on the 17th of March, applied to the Governor, Mr. Drake, (13) and obtained leave to reside in the city, where he determined in his own mind to remain, until he should hear of his father being released. Sirajooddowlah was much an-

(8) রাজবল্লভ *Rājballabh*—in Sanscrit রাজবল্লভ *Rājavallabha.* The beloved of the King.

(9) যবন *Jaban* (Sanscrit যবন *Yavana.*) A Greek, a European, a Mahommedan, a barbarian.

(10) কৃষ্ণদাস *Krishtnadās* (Sanscrit) The Slave of Krishtna or Krishna.

(11) গঙ্গাসাগর *Gangāsāgar* (Sanscrit) from *Gangā,* the Ganges, and *Sāgara,* the Sea—the point where the Ganges falls into the Ocean.

(12) জগন্নাথ *Jagannāth* (Sanscrit) from *Jagat,* the world, and *Nātha,* Lord—The Lord of the world, a Name of *Krishna,* applied to his Temple in Orissa, on the sea side.

(13) সাহেব *Sāheb* is a corruption of the Arabic صاحب *(Sahib)* meaning a Lord, a Master, a Companion; the corresponding Sanscrit word, commonly used in Bengallee is মহাশয়, *Mahāshay,* magnanimous, liberal.

noyed that Rajballabh's treasure should thus have escaped from his grasp, and despatched an ambassador to Calcutta to demand that Kristna Das should be delivered into his hands (14), but that person having presented himself without proper credentials, Mr. Drake expelled him from the city. A. D. 1756.

5. A few days after, news arrived from Europe that there was a near prospect of a war between the English and the French. At that time the latter were very powerful on the coast, and they had more than ten times the number of European soldiers at Chandernagore, (15) that the English had at Calcutta, consequently the English commenced putting their fort into order. (16) The young and violent-tempered Nuwab always entertained extreme (17) hatred towards the English. Now, on quickly hearing of this circumstance, he wrote a threatening letter to Mr. Drake, which contained this injunction: You will not be allowed to make new additions to your Fort: on the contrary, you must destroy the old portion, and without delay make over Kristna Das into the hands of my messenger. (18)

6. One or two months before the death of Alivardi, occurred that of Sayad Ahmad, another paternal uncle of Sirajooddowlah. He left all his wealth, his army, and the government of Purneah by will to his son Sukutjung; accordingly Sukutjung set about the administration of his government a short time before his cousin, Sirajooddowlah, became Soobadar. They were both equally

(14) Literally—Making this claim, "*you* must deliver Kristna Das into *my* hands."

(15) চন্দননগর *Chandannagar* (Sanscrit) The city of Sandal wood. Name of a town about 30 miles North from Calcutta.

(16) সংস্কার *Sanskār* (Sanscrit) Completion, decoration, cleansing.

(17) যৎপরোনাস্তি *Jatparondsti* (a Sanscrit sentence) *Yat*, than which; *paro*, further; *nasti*, there is not: that is, excessive, extreme.

(18) লোক *Lok* (Sanscrit) Man, person.

A. D. 1756. inconsiderate, cruel, and foolish; of course, there was no chance of their long remaining on terms of friendship and agreement.

7. Sirajooddowlah, immediately he ascended the throne, dismissed (18½) the old ministers and generals of his maternal grandfather, and took as favorites certain profligate young men, who encouraged his evil inclinations. They began daily to counsel him to the performance of unjust and cruel actions; so that there was no safety for any person's property or any woman's honor.

8. The principal men of the country, unable to endure all this tyranny, began to form plans for placing some other person on the throne in his stead, and for this purpose they, for the instant, fixed on (19) Sukutjung. It was certain he would be no better than Sirajooddowlah, but they hoped in their own minds that they would, by this device, for the present time escape from the incumbent calamity, and would afterwards have it in their power to seat some fit and good person upon the throne.

9. When all their counsels in this matter were fully matured, a messenger was despatched to Delhi to solicit for Sukutjung the royal grant for the post of the Nazimship. (20) As the petition included the mention of a yearly payment of a crore of rupees, the Emperor's consent was obtained with the greatest ease.

10. Sirajooddowlah having got intimation of this conspiracy (20½) speedily assembled an army, and marched towards Purneah, for the purpose of inflicting capital

(18½) পদচ্যুত *Padachyuta* (Sanscrit) fallen from rank, discharged from office, (from পদ "rank, station" and চ্যুত "fallen" a compound word of the class "*Tatpurusha* of the 5th or ablative case.")

(19) লক্ষ্য করিলেন *Lakhya karilen*, (literally) made him their object or mark.

(20) নাজিমী *Nājimī*. The office of Nazim, from Arabic ناظم *Nāzim*, a regulator, a ruler, a governor.

(20½) চক্রান্ত *Chukrānta* (Sanscrit) conspiracy.

punishment on Sukutjung. That force had reached Rajmuhal, and was preparing to cross the Ganges, when Sirajooddowlah received from Mr. Drake, the Governor of Calcutta, an answer to his Letter, stating firmly that he could not comply with his orders. A. D. 1756.

11. On receipt of this reply his anger burst all bounds (20B.) and he resolved to root out those English who harbored rebels, and who, having constructed a fort in his dominions, were now strengthening themselves. Accordingly, without a moment's delay, he broke up his camp, and ordered the troops to march upon Calcutta. On his way thither he plundered the factory at Cossimbazar, and imprisoned all the Europeans whom he found there.

12. The English residing at Calcutta had been more than sixty years undisturbed; in consequence, from want of particular attention, (1) their fort had almost gone to ruins. In fact, they had fallen into such a state of security, that they had constructed houses within twenty fathoms (2) of the walls. At that time the garrison consisted of only one hundred and seventy soldiers, of whom only sixty were Europeans. The gunpowder (3) was old and weak, and all the cannons had become rusty, (4) but Sirajooddowlah advanced to the attack with forty or fifty thousand troops, and a good train of artillery. (5)

13. The English saw there was no chance of stopping his progress, they therefore began repeatedly to send

(20B) উদ্বেল *Udbel* (Sanscrit) overleaping bounds—from *Ud*, over, and *Velā*, a bound, limit, shore.

(1) আস্থা *Āsthā*—care, respect, regard.

(2) ব্যাম *Byām*, (Sans.) a fathom, or the space between the tips of the fingers of either hand when the arms are extended.

(3) বারুদ *Bārud*, (from Turkish بارود *Bārūt*) gunpowder.

(4) মরিচা *Maricha* (from Pers. مورچه *Morcha*) Rust.

(5) কামান *Kāmān* a cannon.

A. D. 1756. letters to solicit peace, and also proposed the payment of a large sum of money. But he would not listen to any other subject, having determined altogether to destroy them; consequently, without vouchsafing an answer, he began to move rapidly upon Calcutta.

14. On the 16th of June the advance of his army reached Chitpore.(6) But the English had there constructed an outwork, (7) from which they began to pour such a terrific shower of balls upon the Nuwab's army, that they retreated, and encamped at Dumdum.(8)

15. On the 17th, the Nuwab's troops invested the city, and on the next day they attacked it on all sides. Having got possession of the houses near the walls, they began to keep up such a tremendous fire, that no one dared to stand on the ramparts. On this day many were killed and wounded, and the out-works being in possession of the enemy, the English were obliged to confine themselves to the interior of the fort. During the night the enemy set fire to several very large houses on all sides of the fort, and the conflagration was terrific.

16. After this the English held a council to consider what was best to be done; (9) at that time there was not one competent individual among the military officers, who all declared there was no deliverance but in flight. So many natives had taken refuge in the fort, that the

(6) চিৎপুর *Chitpur*, the name of the Northern division of Calcutta.

(7) উপদুর্গ *Upadurga*, (Sanscrit) a small or inferior fort, from দুর্গ a fort.

(8) দমদমা *Damdamā*, name of a place about 8 miles North-East from Calcutta, now the Head quarters of the Bengal Artillery, (from Ar. دمدمة *Damdama*, a cavalier, a mound, a raised battery.)

(9) অতঃপর কি করা উচিত ইহা বিবেচনা করিবার নিমিত্ত ইঙ্গরেজেরা এক সভা করিলেন ॥ (Literally). After this, "what is proper to be done?" for the sake of considering this the English formed an assembly.

provisions it contained could not have lasted even a week. It was therefore considered most advisable that, early next morning, they should abandon the city, and getting on board the boats which were near the fort, betake themselves to flight. But there was no person in the fort competent to carry these arrangements into effect; all were ready to give orders, but none to obey them. A. D. 1756.

17. At the appointed time, first of all the women were sent. At that crisis all those in the fort and the boatmen were quite overcome with fear. All rushed towards the river side, and the boatmen were ready to fly with the boats; in fact all were anxious only about themselves—each got on board the first boat he fell in with; the worshipful Governor Drake, and the gallant commander of the forces (10) were the very first to take to flight, and the few boats that were at hand, in the course of not many minutes, betook themselves, some to the ships, (11) and some to Howrah, on the opposite bank of the river, but more than half of the troops and the respectable people remained behind in the fort.

18. As soon as the news of the Governor's flight was publicly known, the people who remained assembled together and appointed Mr. Holwell their chief. The fugitives having got on board of ships, dropped down the river to the distance of nearly a coss, (11½) and there remained at anchor. On the 19th of June, the enemy again made an attack, but in the end were driven back.

(10) বাহাদুর *Bāhādur* (from Persian بہادر *Bahādur*)—a brave man, a hero.

(11) জাহাজ *Jāhāj* (from Arabic جہاز *Jahāz,*) a Ship. (The corresponding Sanscrit would be অর্ণবযান *Arnabajān,* or correctly *Arnavayāna,* from অর্ণব the Sea, and যান a vehicle.)

(11½) ক্রোশ *Krosh* (Sanscrit,) a measure of distance equal to 4,000 cubits, or nearly a mile and one eighth; in common acceptation two miles.

A. D. 1756.

19. The occupiers of the fort had defended themselves two days, and had never ceased making signals to the people in the ships to come and rescue them, which undoubtedly they might easily have done; but the fugitives never made a single effort to save those who had been left behind. However these had still one hope remaining. The Royal George had anchored off Chitpore. Mr. Holwell sent two respectable persons to bring that ship near the fort; but on its attempting to approach, it struck on a sand-bank, and could not be got off: thus even the last hope of the unfortunate persons in the fort was annihilated.

20. On the night of the 19th, the enemy set fire to the remaining houses situated around the fort, and on the 20th they again made an assault with much more energy than before. Mr. Holwell, thinking it vain any longer to attempt to carry on the defence, applied by letter to Manik Chand, the Nuwab's General, for terms of peace. At four o'clock in the afternoon one of the enemy's soldiers made a signal to stop the cannonade. (12) The English, thinking the general's answer had arrived, ceased firing their artillery. On this the enemy immediately rushed towards the rampart, and, having scaled it, began to strive to effect an entrance into the interior of the fort. In the course of an hour they got possession of the place, and commenced plundering it.

21. At five o'clock Sirajooddowlah arrived in a Choupāl, (13) and all the Europeans were brought into his presence. Mr. Holwell's hands were tied. The Nuwab ordered them to be unloosed, and encouraged him by tell-

(12) কামান *Kāmān*, from the Persian كمان *Kamān*, a bow, or the English word "*cannon*:" probably the latter.

(13) চৌপালা *Chaopālā* (from the Sanscrit चतुष्पाद four-footed) a palanquin, or litter of a peculiar make, used by great men, and by a bridegroom at his marriage.

ing him that not a hair of his head should be touched. A. D. 1756.
He expressed his astonishment how so small a number of persons had stood out so long against a force of more than four hundred times their number. He then held a court in an open place, and ordered Kristna Das to be brought before him. Among the reasons assigned by the Nuwab for attacking the English, their affording an asylum to Kristna Das was one of the principal; accordingly it was universally supposed, that he would inflict condign punishment on that person, but, instead of that, he bestowed on him an honorary dress.(14)

22. At about six or seven o'clock the Nuwab gave the fort into the charge of the commander of the forces, Manik Chand, and returned to the camp. At that time there were 146 European prisoners, including a lady (14½) and twelve wounded officers. The general began to look for a place where he could keep these persons in safe custody during that night. There was in the fort at this time a room eighteen feet long and fourteen broad, with only one small window (15) on each side for the passage of air, which had been used as a place of confinement for turbulent and ill-behaved soldiers; into so small a place the Mahomedans, at that terribly hot season, threw all those European prisoners.

23. That night there were no bounds to their agonies. The prisoners were soon tortured with dreadful thirst, and the water which, after repeated entreaties, they obtained from the guards, only served to drive them nearly mad; each, anxious for breath, struggled to get near the window, and, unable to endure longer the torture, they

(14) মর্য্যাদা সূচক পরিচ্ছদ *Marjyādā sūchak parichchhad.* A dress indicating honor. (The common expression is খেলাৎ *Khelāt,* from Arabic خلعت *Khalat,* usually pronounced *Khilat.*)

(14½) বিবি *Bibi* (Hindee বীবী) A lady, (vulgarly) a wife.

(15) গবাক্ষ *Gabākhya* (Sanscrit) An air hole, a loop-hole, a bull's eye, &c. from *go* an ox, and *aksha,* an eye.

A. D. 1756. began to entreat the guard to fire upon them, and put an end to their intolerable sufferings. By degrees several of them expired (16) one by one, and fell on the ground; then the rest, standing upon the heap of corpses, obtained space to breathe. In this way several persons were preserved alive.

24. On opening the door early the next morning it was found that out of 146 individuals only twenty-three were alive. This is the transaction which is well known as the "murder of the black-hole." (17) On this account the story of the siege of Calcutta by Sirajooddowlah is so dreadful to hear. Owing to this fearful outrage, this portion of history is still fresh in the memory of people of all nations, and Sirajooddowlah has obtained special notoriety as a monster of cruelty: but he had not the slightest (18) knowledge of the matter till early the following morning. That night the fort was under the charge of the commander Manik Chand, therefore that Hindoo alone is in reality answerable for the whole fault.

25. When this cruel affair came to the ears of the Nuwab, early on the morning of the 21st June, he displayed the utmost unconcern.

26. Amongst the survivors of the prisoners in the Black Hole, Mr. Holwell was one. The Nuwab sent for him and ordered him to point out the treasury. When he found that it contained only fifty thousand rupees he was exceedingly (19) surprised.

(16) পঞ্চত্ব *Panchatwa* (Sanscrit.) The state of five, resolution into the five elements, death.

(17) অন্ধকূপ *Andhakūp* (Sanscrit) A blind well, a well, or hole overgrown by grass or weeds.

(18) বিন্দুবিসর্গ *Bindubisarga* (Sanscrit) One jot or tittle: *bindu* the dot over a letter (ং) marking the nasal termination; *bisarga*, the soft aspirate marked by two perpendicular dots, thus (ঃ)

(19) অত্যন্ত *Atyanta* (Sanscrit) Much, excessive,—from *ati*, beyond, and *anta*, end, boundary.

27. Sirajooddowlah, having remained nine days in the neighbourhood of Calcutta, and given it the name of Alinagar, departed for Moorshedabad. On the 2nd of July he crossed the Ganges to the town of Hoogly, and sent people to demand some contributions from the French and the Dutch: at the same time he threatened them that, if they did not comply, he would reduce them to the same wretched condition as the English. Accordingly the Dutch sent him four lakhs (20) and a half of rupees; and the French, three lakhs and a half, and so escaped that time. (21) A. D. 1756.

28. The year that Calcutta was taken and the English expelled from Bengal, viz. 1756, the Danes obtained permission to settle in this country, and founded the town of Serampore. (22)

29. Sirajooddowlah, elated with victory, on his arrival at Moorshedabad, determined to attack Sukutjung, the Governor of Purneah. To establish grounds for a quarrel, he appointed one of his servants the Military Governor (23) of that district, and wrote to his cousin (24) (Sukutjung) ordering him to make over charge of all affairs to that person. On this that youth, being blinded and almost maddened with rage, wrote the following reply; "I am the rightful chief of all this province, as I have obtained the grant from Delhi. Now my order is that you should quit Moorshedabad without delay, and go wherever you choose."

(20) লক্ষ *Lakhya* (Sanscrit) One hundred thousand, commonly corrupted to লাক *Lāk*.

(21) যাত্রা *Jātrā* (Sanscrit) A journey, a march.

(22) শ্রীরামপুর *Shrīrāmpur* (Sanscrit) the city of the glorious Rām, name of a town about 16 miles North of Calcutta.

(23) ফৌজদার *Phaojdār* (from Persian فوجدار *Faojdār*.) An officer of Police, a Magistrate.

(24) পিতৃব্যপুত্র *Pitribyaputra* (Sanscrit) Paternal uncle's son.

A. D. 1756.

30. On receiving this answer, Sirajooddowlah could no longer restrain his rage, and, speedily assembling an army, he marched towards Purneah. Sukutjung also, on hearing this intelligence, marched out with an army to meet him, but he knew nothing at all of war himself and would not take any one's advice. The Commanders advanced with the army to a strong position, having in front of it a marsh, which there was no means of crossing but one causeway. The whole army encamped there; but there was no competent Commander, nor any plan of proceeding: all the generals posted their divisions in different places, as it suited the convenience (25) of each.

31. At length the troops of Sirajooddowlah arrived opposite that marsh, and began to cannonade the enemy. Sukutjung, seeing his army severely injured by the fire of the heavy artillery, madly ordered his cavalry to cross the marsh and attack. After getting through the mud with great difficulty, they had no sooner set foot on firm ground, than the troops of Sirajooddowlah charged them furiously.

32. When the fight was hottest, Sukutjung retired to the camp, to amuse himself with his women, and became so intoxicated with liquor that he could no longer sit up straight. His generals followed him, and began to urge him strongly to be present on the field. At length they made him mount an elephant, with a servant to hold him, and stationed him at the edge of the marsh. As soon as he took his position there, a ball from the enemy struck him on the forehead. He immediately expired and fell back in the howdah. (26) The troops seeing him die,

(25) সুবিধা *Subidhā* (Sanscrit) Prosperity, advantage: from *su*, good, and *bidhā*, form, manner.

(26) হাওদা *Hāodā* (from *Oordoo* هودہ *Haoda*, corrupted from Arabic هودج *Haodaj*,) An open seat on an Elephant.

broke their ranks and fled. Two days after, the Nuwab's general, Mohunlal, took possession of Purneah, and sent off to Moorshedabad ninety lakhs of Rupees, which he found in the treasury, and all the people of Sukutjung's Seraglio. (27) A. D. 1756.

33. Sirajooddowlah had not courage to be himself present on the field of battle; in fact he did not advance further than Rajmuhal, yet he took to himself all the glory of the victory, and returned to Moorshedabad with great pomp.

34. We now return to the affairs of the English. Mr. Drake, having in a cowardly manner abandoned his countrymen, sent to Madras to ask for aid, and remained himself with his followers at the mouth of the river, on board of the ships, where many persons were carried off by disease.

35. When the news of this disaster at Calcutta reached Madras, the Governor and Members of Council (28) were much agitated, and began to discover around them the most gloomy prospects; (29) for at that time there was every chance of a war speedily breaking out with the French. The latter were at that period very powerful at Pondichery, and the troops of the English were very few in number; yet they came to the determination, that it was their first duty to afford succour to Bengal. They then, with much haste, collected together some ships of war and some troops, and, placing the fleet

(27) অন্তঃপুরিকা *Antahpurika* (Sanscrit) (অন্তঃপুর is more commonly used) The women's apartments.

(28) গবর্ণর ও কৌনসিলের মেম্বরেরা *Gabarnar o Kaonsiler membarera.* Note, instead of adopting the English expressions perhaps the Sanscrit ones, অধিপতি *adhipati,* a Chief and রাজসভাস্থ *Rājasabhāstha* Member of the royal or Government assembly, would answer.

(29) চারিদিক্ বিপদ সাগর দেখিতে লাগিলেন *Charidik bipud sāgar dekhite lāgilen.* Literally, Began to see an ocean of calamity on four sides.

A. D. 1756. under the command of Admiral (30) Watson, and the army under that of Colonel (31) Clive, despatched them to Bengal.

36. Thirteen years previous to this, Clive had come out to India, at the age of eighteen, as a writer (32) to the Company; but having a strong turn for the profession of arms, he was admitted, at his own request, into the Military service, and soon rose to eminence as a warrior. At the period of his coming to Bengal he was thirty-one years of age. In fact he was a youth in years, but an old man in wisdom.

37. Much time was lost in preparations at Madras, consequently all the ships could not get out before October. The North East winds had then set in, therefore the fleet could not reach Calcutta in less than six weeks; and two of them were even delayed longer. For the relief of Calcutta there were sent in all 900 Europeans(33) and 1500 sepoys. (34) On the 20th of December they reached Fultah, and on the 28th Moyapore. At the latter there was a Fort of the Mahommedans. (35) Colonel Clive disembarked the whole of his forces in the course of that very night; but, owing to the fault of the guides, he did not get near the fort before sunrise.

38. The Nuwab's General, Manik Chand, having un-

(30) এডমিরেল *Edmirel,* corruption of English Admiral (we might adopt the Sanscrit word অর্ণবসৈন্যাধ্যক্ষ *arnabasaenyādhyakhya* "Chief of the Sea forces.")

(31) কর্ণেল *Karnel,* corruption of the English "Colonel," which might be rendered by the Sanscrit বাহিনীপতি *Bāhinīpati,* "chief of a battalion, or cohort."

(32) কেরানী *Keranī,* (from Deccan Hindee كرانى *krānī,*) A clerk.

(33) গোরা *Gorā* (S.) Fair complexioned, a common European.

(34) সিপাহী *Sipāhī* (from Persian سپاهي *Sipahī*) A Soldier.

(35) মোগল *Mogal* (from Persian مغل *Mughul,*) A Mogul, also applied to Mahommedans in general.

expectedly arrived there from Calcutta, attacked Clive. At that time, if his troops had done their duty properly, the English would undoubtedly have been defeated. But Clive, having promptly brought up his artillery, opened a fire upon the enemy, and a ball having passed through the howdah of Manik Chand, he became alarmed, and instantly fled to Calcutta. Finally, being afraid to remain even there, he left behind a force of only five hundred men, and started with precipitation for Moorshedabad,(36) with the view of joining his master. A. D. 1756.

39. Clive immediately marched on Calcutta, but, before his arrival, the fleet had reached that city, and the place having been cannonaded for two hours without intermission, fell into the hands of Admiral Watson, on the 2d of January 1757. Thus was Calcutta recovered; but the besiegers had not one man killed.

(36) মুরশিদাবাদ *Moorshidābād*—A city on the most sacred branch of the River Ganges, named the Bhagirathi or Cossimbazar River, about 120 miles above Calcutta. It was originally named Mucksoosabad, but the name was changed by Moorshid Cooly Khan, when he transferred the seat of government to this place in 1704.

CHAPTER XII.

A. D. 1757.

1. Clive was thoroughly convinced (1) that unless he assumed a threatening posture the Nuwab would never solicit peace. Accordingly, two days after the recovery of Calcutta, he despatched ships of war and an army, and captured the town of Hoogly, which was at that time a commercial place of great wealth and eminence.

2. It appears that Clive, immediately on gaining possession of Calcutta, had sent off to the Seths (2) of Moorshedabad to ask them to act as mediators in promoting a peace between the Nuwab and the English. Sirajooddowlah at first listened willingly to their advice, but as soon as he learned that Clive had taken the town of Hooghly and plundered its port, he became furious (3) and immediately ordered his army to march towards Calcutta. On the 30th of January, he crossed the Ganges with his troops at Hoogly Ghaut, (4) and on the 2d of February he arrived in the neighbourhood of Calcutta, where he pitched his camp, at the distance of a quarter of a coss from that of Clive.

3. Clive had assembled a force of only 700 Europeans and 1200 Sepoys, whilst the Nuwab's army amounted to nearly 40,000 men.

(1) ভালরূপে বুঝিয়াছিলেন *Bhālarūpe bujhiyāchhilen,* had well or maturely thought or understood.

(2) শেঠ *Sheth* (from Sanscrit শ্রেষ্ঠী *Shreshthī,* The head or chief of a body of persons following the same trade or profession.) The title of a tribe of Bankers, a family of whom has been long settled at Moorshedabad: they were originally *Jains,* but turned Hindoos.

(3) Literally, "blind with rage."

(4) ঘাট *Ghāt,* (Sanscrit ঘট্ট *Ghatta,*) A landing place, quay, wharf, ferry, bathing-place on a river side.

4. Immediately on Sirajooddowlah's arrival, Clive had sent messengers to solicit peace. From frequent interviews and conversations had with the Nuwab, they were able to conclude, that, though he talked of peace, yet his heart was differently inclined. Moreover from the fright of the inhabitants on all sides of Calcutta, through terror at the Nuwab's arrival, the English began to find it difficult to obtain provisions. (5) Therefore Clive considered it necessary to attack the Nuwab without further hesitation. On the night of the 4th of February he went on board the admiral's ship, and asked him for six hundred European sailors, with whom he landed at one o'clock in the morning (6): at two o'clock all the troops stood to their arms (7): at four o'clock they at once advanced upon the Nuwab's camp. The whole army consisted of 1350 Europeans and 800 Sepoys, but Clive, trusting entirely to courage, with this small force, advanced to the attack of an army of more than twenty times their number. A. D. 1757.

5. At the close of the cold weather it is usual to have foggy (8) weather almost daily. So on that day, as soon as it was dawn, so dense a fog came on, that it was impossible to see any thing at the distance of three fathoms. At any rate, (9) the English went on fighting their way until they had quite penetrated through the enemy's camp. Their total loss was two hundred and twenty

(5) Literally, "the provisions of the English began to be difficult to be procured."

(6) Literally, "one o'clock of the night."

(7) স্ব২ অস্ত্র শস্ত্র লইয়া প্রস্তুত হইল *Swa swa astra Shastra loiyā prastut hoila.* Literally, "taking their respective missile weapons and general weapons, became prepared."

(8) কোয়াসা *Kowāsa,* (from Sanscrit কুজ্ঝটিকা *Kujjhatikā*) a fog, a mist.

(9) যাহাহউক *Jāhā hauk,* Literally—be what it may.

A. D. 1757. men killed and wounded, but the casualties on the side of the Nuwab were much more numerous.

6. When the Nuwab witnessed this attack made by Clive with such unimagined daring, he was seized with terror, and was enabled to perceive with how brave and dangerous an enemy he had entered into a contest; consequently he retreated forthwith to the distance of four coss, and there pitched his camp. Clive made all preparations for a second attack, but the Nuwab was then altogether disinclined to fight. He accordingly agreed to a pacification, and on the 9th of February he signed a treaty of peace. (10)

7. By this pacification, the English obtained the whole of their former rights. In addition, their merchandise was exempted from duty, (11) and they obtained permission to erect a fort and establish a mint (12) in Calcutta. The Nuwab also agreed that he would return all the property which had been seized, and would pay the fair value of that which had been destroyed.

8. Considering that the English had been victorious, the Nuwab looked on these terms as being, at that time, very favourable. Clive also reflected that in Europe war had already broken out between the French and English, and that the French had as many European troops in Chandernagore as he had in Calcutta; therefore it was absolutely necessary for him to settle matters so as to be quite at ease with regard to the Nuwab before he proceeded to attack the French.

9. When the intelligence of hostilities having com-

(10) সন্ধিপত্রে স্বাক্ষর করিলেন *Shandhipatre shwakhyar karilen* Literally, "on a paper or document of peace he made his signature."

(11) মাশুল *Māshūl* (from Arabic محصول *mahsūl*) Custom, duty excise, revenue—the Sanscrit word is শুল্ক *Sulka*.

(12) টাকশাল *Tūkshāl* (from Sanscrit টঙ্কশালা *Tankashālā*) a mint: টাকা a coin, a rupee, and শালা *shālā*, a house.

menced between these two nations arrived in Calcutta, Clive proposed to the French that a neutrality should be adopted in India, that is to say, neither party should attack the other. To this the Governor of Chandernagore replied, that he had no objection to agree to his proposal, (13) but if a French military officer of higher rank should arrive, he might repudiate such a treaty. A. D. 1757.

10. Clive perceived that any such arrangement as would ensure security, was impossible—and so long as the French had such a large force at Chandernagore, Calcutta would not be safe. He also came to the opinion that Sirajooddowlah had made peace only through fear, and he would assuredly commence hostilities on the first good opportunity. The fact is, that Sirajooddowlah up to that time was incessantly caballing with the French, and had even sent some troops to their assistance.

11. Be this as it may, Clive did not think it right to attack the French without the Nuwab's consent; but as often as he asked permission for this purpose, the Nuwab gave him no distinct reply. At length Admiral Watson wrote to the Nuwab, that all the forces he expected had arrived, and that he would now raise such a conflagration of war in his dominions, as would not be extinguished by all the water of the Ganges. Sirajooddowlah was extremely alarmed at the perusal of this communication, and on the 10th of March, 1847, (14) he wrote a letter, at the conclusion of which he desired him to do whatever he thought proper.

12. Clive took this in the light of a permission to attack the French, and immediately proceeded by land with an army against Chandernagore. Admiral Watson, also

(13) আপনকার প্রস্তাবে সম্মত হইতে আমার আপত্তি নাই *Āpankār prastābe sammata hoite āmār āpatti nāi.* Literally,—"I have no objection to agree to *your* proposal."

(14) It ought surely to be 1757.

A. D. 1757. moved by water with his whole fleet, and anchored (14½) near the town. Clive, with his natural courage, exerted every possible endeavour, but nevertheless the place was taken by the efforts of the naval force alone. Of all the engagements which the English had up to that period fought in India, this was the most terrific. The place was taken after a siege of nine days.

13. It is universally (15) asserted, that the English had gained over the French officers and soldiers by bribery, and that Chandernagore was taken merely through their treachery, (16). The source, (17) of the above common report (18) is this. The French Governor, in order to impede the approach of the English ships, had, by sinking boats, nearly closed the whole of the Ganges, leaving only one narrow passage, which was known to but a few individuals. One of the French officers named Terreneau, being, for some cause, dissatisfied with the French Governor, Monsieur Renaud, went over to Clive, and disclosed to him that passage. Afterwards that person saved some money in the service of the English, and sent a portion of it to his aged father in France; but the latter returned it with disgust, saying it was the gift of a traitor. This circumstance caused such depression in the mind of Terreneau, that he hanged himself with a handkerchief on the door of his house. (19)

(14½) নঙ্গর *Nangar*, (Persian لنگر *Langar*) an anchor.

(15) সচরাচর *Sacharāchar*, (Sanscrit) All, whether animate or inanimate, universal (স with চর moving, অচর stationary.)

(16) বিশ্বাসঘাতকতা *Bishwāshaghātakatā* (Sanscrit) Treachery (বিশ্বাস confidence, and ঘাতক destroyer, with তা, an affix, denoting quality, office, &c.)

(17) মূল *Mūl* (Sanscrit) root, origin.

(18) জনরব *Janarab*, Report, rumor,—from জন mankind, and রব sound.

(19) Literally, "having fastened a handkerchief round his throat, by hanging himself to the door of his house, he abandoned his life."

14. By the treaty with Sirajooddowlah the English obtained liberty to establish a mint and build a fort. They had for more than sixty years incessantly petitioned in vain to obtain these two privileges. The old fort of Calcutta, which was so easily taken by the Nuwab, had been built with great secrecy. Accordingly, immediately after the treaty, Clive delaying no longer about building a fortress which should be impregnable to Native armies, laid the foundation, in the year 1757, of the present fort, and diligently set about its completion. When he got the plan, (20) he was unable to judge of the probable expense—but after the work was commenced, he gradually discovered, that it would cost two crores (21) of Rupees; it was, however, then too late to make any change. In the same year a mint was established, and on the 19th of August of that year English money was first coined in Bengal. A. D. 1757.

15. Clive having thus, by force, established the English power, came to the conclusion, in his own mind, that this power could be preserved by forcible measures alone. He had from the first determined, that it would never do for the English to remain unconcerned; they would be obliged to constantly strike out new enterprizes. He was particularly anxious that the French should not again be allowed to obtain a footing in Bengal. (22)

16. There was at that time in the Deccan (23) a French

(20) নকসা *Nakshā* (from Arabic نقش *Naqsha,*) A picture, map, plan.

(21) কোটি *Koti.* (Sanscrit) A crore or ten millions: it is usually corrupted into ক্রোর *kror.*

(22) বাঙ্গালাতে প্রবেশ করিতে না পায় *Bāngalāte prabesh karite nā pāe,* Literally—should not be allowed to make an entrance into Bengal.

(23) দক্ষিণ রাজ্যে *Dakhyina rajye* (Sanscrit) In the southern dominion or territory.

A. D. 1757. General named Bussy, who by the conquest of much territory had become very powerful. Sirajooddowlah made merely an external (24) profession of friendship for the English, and at the same time was constantly writing to the above named French General, inviting him to advance with an army into Bengal and attack them. Several of these letters were intercepted, and came into the hands of Clive. He (the Nuwab) could not forgive the English for having humbled him; (25) and occasionally his anger would burst forth. A gentleman named Watts was the Resident at his Court. (26) One day the Nuwab would threaten to impale him; the next day he would send him a dress of honor. One day he would, in a fury, tear to pieces a communication from Clive; the next day he would write him a letter in a tone of mildness and humility.

17. The English saw clearly that as long as this headstrong (27) boy should remain Governor of Bengal, they could not prosper in any way. Whilst they were, in consequence, revolving in their minds by what plan they might ensure security to themselves, they received a letter from several officers connected with the Nuwab's Court. (28)

18. Sirajooddowlah had, by his wilfulness and cruelty,

(24) মুখে মাত্র *Mukhe mātra,* Literally—only with his mouth.

(25) Literally—The English had made him short, *or a dwarf,* therefore he could not be without anger towards them.

(26) দরবার *Darbār* (from Persian دربار *Darbār*) House, court, hall of audience.

(27) দুর্দান্ত *Durdānta,* (Sanscrit) untameable, unteachable—from দুর্ a particle signifying, with difficulty, and দান্ত past participle of দম্ to tame, to pacify.

(28) সরকার *Sharkār,* (from Persian سرکار *sarkār* Literally head or source of business) A Court, Government, Superintendent.

excited the highest disgust in the minds of these persons; and they also looked upon their property, their honor, and their lives to be in constant danger. (29) In the previous year they had unanimously resolved to place Sukutjung upon the throne; but this their design had been defeated. They now staked their lives to depose Serajooddowlah at all events, and secretly dispatched a letter to the English to solicit their assistance. A. D. 1757.

19. The Hindoos have an impression, (30) that the landholders (31) of the country called in the English to remove the dread of Sirajooddowlah's tyranny, and to take possession of the Government. Therefore it is necessary to record it (32) in this place, that neither the Zumeendar of Burdwan, Nudea, Rajshahee, (33) nor of any other district had any concern in this revolution. Their duty was merely to collect the revenue, and, therefore, they possessed no power. (34) The following persons were principally active in this business, namely: the members of the powerful family of the Seths, treasurers (35) of the emperor of Delhi; the General, Meer Jafir, Pay-

(29) সঙ্কটাপন্ন *Shankatāpanna* (Sanscrit) Arrived at danger: from সঙ্কট, difficulty, danger, and আপন্ন arrived at.

(30) সংস্কার *Shanskār* (Sanscrit) Apprehension, conception.

(31) জমীদার *Jamīdār* (from Persian زمیندار *Zamīndār*) a landholder, proprietor of land, farmer. The corresponding Sanscrit would be ভূম্যধিকারী *Bhūmyadhikārī*, from ভূমি land, and অধিকারী possessed of.

(32) নির্দ্ধারিত করা *Nirdhārit karā* A compound verbal noun, signifying literally "to make confirmed, settled, or decided."

(33) বর্দ্ধমান, নদীয়া, রাজসাহি *Barddhamān, Nadīyā, Rājashāhi*, Names of three zumeendarees in Bengal.

(34) তাহাদের ক্ষমতা কি *Tāhāder khyamatā ki*. Literally—"what their power?"

(35) খাজাঞ্চী *Khājānchī*, (corrupted from خزانچي *Khazanchī*) A treasurer: from the Arabic *khazna*, a treasure, and the Turkish affix

A. D. 1757. master of the troops, and two wealthy merchants, named Oomichand and Khojah (36) Wuzeed. These persons alone solicited Clive to come with his army to depose Sirajooddowlah, and place Meer Jafir on the throne.

20. Then the English perceived that, even without their aid, this revolution, (37) would take place, and that by affording their assistance many advantages would probably accrue to them: but nearly all the members of Council at that time were of a timid disposition; they, therefore, wanted courage to enter on such an affair. Admiral Watson also was of opinion, that it was a piece of presumption on the part of men who had hitherto been engaged in the ordinary business of commerce to undertake to depose the Governor of the country. But Clive was a fearless, (38) and daring man, in whom danger, instead of producing dread, excited greater courage. He was therefore disinclined to shrink from the proposal before them. (39)

21. Clive, during the two months of April and May, commenced, through the instrumentality of Mr. Watts, the Resident at Moorshedabad, to secretly negotiate with (40) the chief officers of the Nuwab, and this with such secrecy that not a suspicion ever crossed the mind of Sirajooddowlah except once; and then he summoned

chī. The corresponding Sanscrit word would be ধনাধ্যক্ষ *Dhanā dhyakshya*, from ধন wealth, and অধ্যক্ষ superintendent.

(36) খোজা *Khojā* (from Persian خواجه *khwājah*) A man of distinction, a rich merchant, a gentleman, a Governor.

(37) রাজবিপ্লব *Rājabiplab*, (Sanscrit) The upsetting or changing of Governors.

(38) অকুতোভয় *Akutobhay* (a Sanscrit compound) fearless, undaunted, (অ not, কুতঃ from any where, ভয় fear.)

(39) উপস্থিত *Upasthita*, Arrived, come near.

(40) যোগাযোগ *Jogājog*—consultation, negotiation, intrigue, contrivance.

Meer Jafir, and made him touch the Koran, (41) and swear that he would never be guilty of treachery. (42) A. D. 1757.

22. Just as every thing was arranged, Oomichand resolved to defeat this project. This man's wealth was immense, but his covetousness was still greater. It was agreed with him, that, on the completion of this affair, he should receive five *per cent.* of all the treasure that should come to hand. But, not satisfied even with this, he went one day at a late hour to Mr. Watts, and declared, that if thirty lakhs additional were not assigned to him in writing, he would immediately go to the Nuwab, and reveal to him the whole of the plot. Had he done so, Watts and all who were mixed up in this affair would have been immediately punished with death. Mr. Watts, in order to gain time, did every thing to soothe the traitor, and immediately wrote a letter to Calcutta.

23. Clive was thunderstruck, (43) at the receipt of this news. He reflected that Oomichand was endeavouring by wicked means to extract money, and was therefore a public enemy: consequently it was lawful to employ any artifice to defeat his villainy. On this conclusion he wrote to Mr. Watts to allow Oomichand's claim, and he prepared two treaties, in one of which the subject of giving thirty lakhs of rupees to this person was included, and in the other it was not mentioned. The first of these was shown to him, and his mind was thereby set at ease. A stipulation was then entered into with

(41) কোরান *Korān* (from Arabic قرآن) The *Qurān*, book containing the precepts, &c. of Mahommed.

(42) এই শপথ করাইলেন যে আমি কখন কৃতঘ্ন হইব না *Ei shapath karāilen je āmi kakhana kritaghna hoibo nā.* Literally "made him swear this oath, that I will never be treacherous" কৃতঘ্ন ungrateful: "from কৃত What is done, and ঘ্ন destroying, obliterating, from the root হন্ to slay.

(43) হতবুদ্ধি *Hutabuddhi* (Sanscrit) Bereft of sense (a compound of the *Vahuvrīhi* class হত slain, বুদ্ধি understanding.)

A. D. 1757. Meer Jafir that as the English should advance, he should separate his force from that of his master, and should join the English.

24. Every thing being thus arranged, Clive wrote a letter to Sirajooddowlah to the following effect: "Your Highness has committed many injurious acts against the English; has broken the articles of the treaty of peace; has not made good injuries as stipulated; and has invited the French to drive the English out of Bengal. I am, therefore, about to proceed myself to Moorshedabad, and shall impose on your chief officers the duty of deciding on all points."

25. The Nuwab, as soon as he perceived the artful style of this letter, and read that Clive was coming in person, became much disconcerted, and, hastily assembling a force, advanced towards Plassey. (44) Clive marched with his army at the commencement of the month of June 1757; on the 17th he arrived at Cutwah, (45) and next day took the fort at that place by assault.

26. On the 19th of June it began to rain with great violence. Clive began to hesitate in his own mind whether he should cross the river to engage the Nuwab, or retreat; for he had not up to that time seen any sign of Meer Jafir, nor even received a letter from him. He then assembled all the officers and held a council. They unanimously voted against fighting. Clive at first adopted their decision; but at last, after mature consideration of the subject, trusting to fortune, (46) he adopted the

(44) পলাসি *Palāshi* (probably from পলাশ *palāsh*, the tree called Butea frondosa, bearing beautiful orange flowers,) name of a place distant 30 miles from Moorshedabad to the South, on the left or Eastern bank of the River Hooghly.

(45) কাটোয়া *Kātwā*, Name of a town 75 miles North from Calcutta. On the right or West bank of the river Hooghly.

(46) ভাগ্যে যাহা থাকে ভাবিয়া *Bhāgye jāhā thāke bhābiyā* Literally "reflecting, whatever is in fate" *(that will happen)*.

alternative of fighting. He had justly concluded, that if, after having advanced so far he should then retire, all hopes of the progress of the English in Bengal would be at once cut off. A. D. 1757.

27. On the 22d of June at sun-rise the troops began to cross the Ganges, (47) and at about four o'clock in the afternoon, the whole army had reached the opposite bank. Then pushing on without a halt they arrived at the Grove (48) of Plassey, at about one o'clock the next morning.

28. Immediately the day dawned, the engagement commenced. Clive began to look out with an anxious heart for the coming of Meer Jafir and his troops; but even up to that time no signs of them could be seen. The Nuwab had 15,000 Cavalry and 35,000 Infantry in the field. He himself was in his tent (49) in the rear, surrounded by flatterers. Meer Muddun had commenced the fight. Meer Jafir was present with his force, but was not engaged.

29. About noon both the legs of Meer Muddun, Commander of the Army, were carried off by a cannon ball. He was immediately conveyed to the Nuwab's tent and expired in his presence. At this sight the Nuwab was much agitated, and began to suspect his servants of trea-

(47) গঙ্গা *Gangā* (Sanscrit.) The river Ganges. This name is restricted by Europeans to the large branch which is called by the natives the *Padmā*, and the branch here alluded to is styled by the former as well as the latter "the Hooghly."

(48) কুঞ্জ *Kunja* (Sanscrit) A grove, a bower, a place overgrown with climbing plants, (the common word for a grove of trees is বাগান *Bāgān* from Persian باغان *Bāghān*, irregular plural of *Bāgh*, a garden, orchard, grove. This grove of Plassey has been swept away by the encroachments of the river.

(49) তাঁবু *Tāmbu*, (from Hindee تنبو *Tambū*) a tent: the corresponding Sanscrit word is বস্ত্রগৃহ literally "cloth-house" or পটগৃহ.

A. D. 1757. chery. (50) He then sent for Meer Jafir, and placing his turban (51) on his feet, he, with much humility, addressed to him the following entreaty: "At least for my grandfather's sake forgive my faults and assist me at this moment of calamity."

30. Jafir promised that he would be faithful to his duty, and, as a proof of it, advised the Nuwab that, as the day was far advanced, he should recal the troops, and that next day they should, with the favor of the Almighty, (52) assemble all the forces, and be prepared for battle. Accordingly the Nuwab sent orders to his officers to discontinue the fight. The Nuwab's Commander, Mohun Lal, was engaged in fierce conflict with the English when he received this order, and with great reluctance desisted. At this sudden inertness on his part, the troops became dispirited, and, breaking their order, fled on all sides. Thus Clive gained with ease a complete victory.

31. Then Sirajooddowlah mounted a camel, and, travelling all night, with an escort of 2,000 cavalry, he arrived at about eight o'clock next morning at Moorshedabad. He immediately summoned his chief officers and ministers into his presence; but they all betook themselves to their own homes. To say nothing of others, (53) even his father- in-law deserted him at that moment.

(50) এবং ভৃত্যদিগকে বিশ্বাসঘাতক বলিয়া সন্দেহ করিতে লাগিলেন। *Ebang bhrityadigke, bishwās ghātak boliyā sandeha karite lāgilen*—Literally, And began to suspect his servants, calling them (in his mind) traitors.

(51) উষ্ণীষ *Ushtnisa* (Sanscrit উষ্ণ, Heat, and ঈষ্ to oppose) a Turban: the common word is পাগড়ী *Pāgri* from Hindee পগড়ী *Pagrī*.

(52) জগদীশ্বর *Jagadīshwar*, (Sanscrit) The lord of the world, (from *jagat*, the world, and ঈশ্বর *Ishwara* the Lord. "Of the world the Lord"—a compound word of the class "*Tatpurusha*" of the sixth or genitive case.)

(53) অন্যের কথা দূরে থাকুক *Anyer kathā dūre thākuk*, Literally, Let the mention of others remain afar off.

A. D. 1757.

32. In this way he passed the whole day alone in his palace (54). At length, being in utter despair, (55) he resolved on an extraordinary expedient. At about three in the morning he placed his wives and several favorites in covered carts, and having taken in them as much gold and jewels as could be conveniently carried, started for Bhugwangolah. Being arrived there, he got on board a boat, and proceeded, with the view of joining the French General, M. Law, to whom he had previously written a letter desiring him to advance from Patna.

33. The total loss of the English in killed and wounded at the battle of Plassey amounted to twenty Europeans and fifty sepoys. At the close of the engagement Meer Jafir had an interview with Clive, and congratulated him on his victory. They then proceeded together towards Moorshedabad. Meer Jafir, on his arrival there, took possession of the royal palace.

34. The principal men of the city and the chief officers of the Government met together and formed an assembly. Then Clive, rising (56) from his seat, took the hand of Meer Jafir, and, placing him on a throne, saluted him as the Nuwab of Bengal, Behar, and Orissa. After this both of them entered the Treasury, accompanied by several respectable Europeans, and by Clive's Dewan (57) Ram Chand, and his Moonshee (58) Nabá-

(54) প্রাসাদ *Prāshād.* A palace, : more usual expressions, are রাজ মন্দির or রাজগৃহ, a King's house.

(55) হতাশ *Hatāsha,* (Sanscrit) Desponding, despairing : from হত destroyed, আশা hope (in whom) ; being a compound word of the *Vahuvrīhi* class.

(56) গাত্রোত্থান করিয়া *Gātrotthān kariyā.* Having made rising of the body (গাত্র the body, and উত্থান rising.)

(57) দেওয়ান *Dewān,* (from Persian دیوان *Dīwān*) a steward, minister, secretary.

(58) মুনসী *Munshī* (Arabic, منشي *Munshī*) A writer, amanu-

A. D. 1757. krishto, but they did not find there, both in gold and silver, more than two crores of Rupees.

35. The historian of those times, indeed, asserts, that this was only the outer Treasury, and that, besides this, there was another within the female apartments, of (the existence of) which Clive did not gain intimation, and which contained (treasure to the amount of) not less than eight crores of Rupees, in gold, silver and jewels: moreover he confidently asserts that the following persons shared the above treasure among them, namely, Meer Jafir, Ameer Beg Khan, Ram Chand, and Nabakristo, and this indeed does not appear very improbable: for Ram Chand at that time received a salary of only sixty rupees a month; but ten years after, he died, leaving property to the amount of one crore and twenty-five lakhs of Rupees. Again, the salary of Munshi Nabakristo also was not more than sixty rupees a month: he, some (short) time after, obtained the title of Raja, (59) and, on the occasion of his mothers Shrādh, (60) expended, without inconvenience, nine lakhs of Rupees.

36. The English were now relieved from all their difficulties. In the month of June 1756, their factory had been plundered, their commerce destroyed, and their agents cruelly punished with death; in a word, (61) all their connection with Bengal was quite put an end to.

ensis, secretary. (In India, amongst Europeans, the word commonly means "a tutor, a teacher of Persian or Hindustani, a language master"—*Shakespeare.*)

(59) রাজোপাধি *Rājopādhi,* (Sanscrit) (A compound word of the *Karmadhāraya* class, from *Rājan,* a King, prince, the N being dropped in composition, and *Upādhi,* a title, discuminative appellation, nickname.) The title of Raja.

(60) শ্রাদ্ধ *Shrāddha,* (Sanscrit,) A funeral ceremony observed at various fixed periods, (শ্রদ্ধা *Shrāddhā* faith, and অণ or ণ *An* or *na* affix of passion or relation.)

(61) অধিক কি কহিব *Adhik ki kahibo,* What more shall I say?

But in the month of June of the year 1757, they had not only recovered possession of their factory, but they had conquered their enemy, Sirajooddowlah, and made a dependent of their own the Nuwab. Their opponents the French also had been expelled from Bengal. A. D. 1757.

37. It now only remained to make up their losses from the Treasury of Moorshedabad. On this point the following stipulation was made: that a crore of Rupees should be given as compensation for loss sustained by the Company; that fifty lakhs should be assigned for the Europeans who had suffered losses in the taking of Calcutta, and in the same way twenty lakhs for the Bengallies and seven lakhs for the Armenians. Besides all this a handsome gratuity was awarded to the forces. All the Company's servants also who had placed Meer Jafir on the throne were not disappointed (62). Clive obtained sixteen lakhs, and the other members of the Council also received sums of somewhat less amount.

38. It was also agreed that the privileges of the English should be confirmed (63) to the same extent as before. All the space included within the Mahratta Ditch (64) and extending to 2,400 cubits(65) beyond it was to belong to them. All the country to the south of Calcutta as far as Culpee was to be the Company's farm—and the

(62) বঞ্চিত *Banchita,* (Sanscrit) Deceived, imposed on, cheated. (Part participle of বঞ্চ to cheat.)

(63) বজায় *Bajāe,* (From Persian بجا *Bajā,*)In its place unchanged.

(64) মাহারাষ্ট্র খাত *Māhārāshtra khāt,* (Sanscrit) from মহারাষ্ট্র name of a country in the Deccan, also its inhabitants, and খাত a ditch, moat, pond, pit. The Mahratta ditch. Name of a ditch or moat on the North, East and South sides of Calcutta, dug to keep off the sudden inroads of the Mahrattas. The West side of the city is protected by the Ganges. The "ditch" still exists, but is now very shallow, and in some parts filled up.

(65) ছয় শত ধনু: *Chhae shata dhanuh* Six hundred *dhanus,* or bows, each being a measure containing four cubits. It should be 300 *Dhanus,* equal to 600 *Yards* or 1200 *Cubits.*

A. D. 1757. French were never again to obtain permission to settle in that country.

39. Sirajooddowlah having arrived at Rajmuhal from Bhugwangolah approached the hut of a Fakeer (66) for the purpose of cooking some victuals for his wife and daughter. He had formerly been guilty of great tyranny towards the Fakeer. The latter immediately gave intimation of his arrival to his pursuers, who came and seized him. He now began to make the humblest intreaties to the very persons, to whom, a week before, he would not have spoken; but they were deaf to his intreaties, and, after plundering him of all his gold and jewels, took him back to Moorshedabad.

40. At the time he was brought into the city, Meer Jafir, having indulged to great excess in Opium, (67) was in a dead sleep (68). His son Meerun, one of the wickedest men of the time, hearing Sirajooddowlah had arrived, ordered him to be confined near his own apartment, and in the course of an hour or two proposed to his companions (69) to slay him; but they, each and all, refused.

41. There was a person named Mahommedy Beg, whom Aliverdi Khan had brought up. At last, this wicked wretch (70) undertook (71) to carry into effect that cruel

(66) ফকীর *Phakīr* (From Arabic فقير *Faqīr*.) Poor, indigent, a Mahomedan mendicant.

(67) অফেন *Aphen*, (from Arabic افيون *Afyūn*). Opium.

(68) তন্দ্রাবেশ Absorption in sleep, (from তন্দ্রা corruption of তন্দ্রা *Tandra*, Sleepiness, drowsiness, and আবেশ a trance, absorption of the faculties.)

(69) বয়স্য *Bayasya* (Sanscrit) One of the same age, a friend, an associate (from বয়স age,)

(70) দুরাত্মা (Sanscrit) Vile, bad: from দুর্ a particle implying depreciation, badness, &c. and আত্মা the soul.

(71) ভার গ্রহণ করিল, *Bhar grahan karila*. Accepted the burden or responsibility.

business. As soon as he entered the room the unfortunate (72) Nuwab was able to conclude what was the object of his coming, and said in a pitiful tone; "I must assuredly suffer death as an atonement for having slain Hoosein Koolee Khan without any fault." As soon as he had uttered these words the murderer (73) cut off his head with a sword. (74) After several quickly repeated blows he exclaimed "I have suffered the retribution of Hoosein Koolee Khan's murder," and then, expiring, fell on the ground. A. D. 1757.

42. He (the murderer) then hacked his body into pieces, and casting it in a careless and ignominious manner on the back of an elephant, conveyed it by a crowded highway to a burial-place. (75) At that time all men observed that the driver, (76) having occasion, for some cause, to stop the elephant on the way, the animal stood on the very place where eighteen months previously Sirajooddowlah had slain Hoosein Koolee Khan: and that, on the very spot where the innocent blood of the latter had been shed, there fell a few drops from the mangled carcase of the former.

(72) হতভাগ্য *Hatabhāgya*, (Sanscrit) Unfortunate: from হত destroyed, ভাগ্য (whose) fortune; being a compound word of the *Bahuvrīhi* class.

(73) হত্যাকারী *Hatyākārī* (Sanscrit) a Murderer: from হত্যা Murder and কারী a doer (the common word is খুনী *Khunī;* Persian خوني *Khūnī*, from *Khūn*, blood.)

(74) তরবারি *Tarabāri* (Sanscrit) A sword, scymetar (the corruptions তরবার *Tarwar* and তলবার *Talwar* are more commonly used, especially the latter.)

(75) কবর *Kabar* (from Arabic قبر *qabr*) a grave.

(76) মাহুত *Māhut* (St.) An Elephant driver, or keeper (in Oordoo مہاوت *Mahāwat*, in Sanscrit মহামাত্র *Mahāmātra* from মহান্ great, and মাত্র wealth, material, requisite.)

CHAPTER XIII.

A. D. 1758.

1. The authority of Meer Jafir was at once acknowledged in the three provinces without opposition, (1) but it very soon became evident, that he had not the least knowledge of business. He was naturally (2) stupid, cruel, and covetous. He first of all resolved to plunder the property of the eminent Hindoo officers who had amassed great wealth under the rule of former Nuwabs. Amongst these the chief minister Raja Rae Doorlubh, was not only very wealthy, but had an army of his own amounting to six thousand men. On him, before all, Meer Jafir fixed his aim.

2. This able individual had been the most zealous amongst those who had placed Meer Jafir on the throne. When the conspiracy was formed to depose Sirajooddowlah, it was Rae Doorlubh who suggested to the conspirators the propriety of making Meer Jafir the Nuwab; nevertheless the latter began now to plan the utter ruin of the former. In fact, Meer Jafir had conceived such an intense degree of enmity towards him, that, suspecting Sirajooddowlah's youngest brother was on terms of friendship with him, he slew this young and unoffending prince; and Rae Doorlubh himself escaped that time only by taking refuge with the English.

(1) অব্যাহত রূপে *Abyūhata rūpe*, in an undisputed form.

(2) স্বভাবতঃ *Shwabhabatah* (Sanscrit.) From or according to natural property or disposition (স্বভাব Nature, disposition, and the affix তস্ which is put for all the cases.)

3. Raja Ramnarayan had been for a long period the Deputy-Governor (3) of Behar. (4) The Nuwab resolved to displace him, seize all his wealth, and give the Governorship to his own brother. In Clive's opinion the latter was more stupid than even Meer Jafir himself. Ram Singh the Governor of Midnapore (5) was also alienated because the Nuwab had put his brother into prison without any fault. The Deputy Governor of Purneah, Adal Singh, through the evil council of the ministers, rose in rebellion. A. D. 1758.

4. Thus, in five months after the accession of Jafir to the throne, rebellion showed itself in three districts. Alarmed at this, he applied to Clive for aid to appease the spirit of disaffection. Clive was that time an object of confidence throughout Bengal, and this feeling was not misplaced, for he put an end to these three rebellions, and yet not a drop of blood was shed.

5. At the humble entreaty of the Nuwab, Clive passed through Moorshedabad on his way to Patna. The Nuwab had not yet paid the greater portion of the money which it had been stipulated should be made over to the English. Therefore Clive, on arriving at the capital, intimated that it was proper some arrangement (6)

(3) ডেপুটী গবর্ণর *Deputi Gabarnar*, corruption of the English expression "Deputy Governor." We might use instead the Arabic نائب ناظم *Nāib Nāzim* or the Sanscrit উপাধিপতি *Upādhipati*.

(4) বিহার *Bihār* (Sanscrit) Roaming for pleasure. A *Bauddha* or *Jaina* convent. The name of a province to the north-west of Bengal, which was formerly a great seat of the Bud'dhist religion.

(5) মেদিনীপুর *Medinīpur*. Name of a district to the south-west of Calcutta (মেদিনী *the Earth* and পুর *City*,)

(6) বন্দোবস্ত *Bandobast* (from Persian بندوبست *Bandobast*,) Settlement, arrangement: বিলি is an indigenous word of the same meaning, but has usually the corrupted Persian word বন্দি af-

A. D. 1758. should be made for discharging the whole amount. Accordingly the Nuwab assigned over to him, in payment of the debt, all the revenues of the three districts of Burdwan, Nudiya, and Hoogly.

6. When this business was arranged, Clive marched with a force consisting of both Natives and Europeans towards Patna. On his arrival there, Ramnarayun placed himself under his protection, (7) and said that if he had the safeguard of the English, he could remain in allegiance (8) to his master. At Clive's earnest persuasion the Nuwab became reconciled (9) to Ramnarayun. The latter immediately repaired to the camp of Meer Jafir, who, on his showing due marks of honor, refrained this time from displacing him. After this, Clive and the Nuwab returned together to Moorshedabad. Raja Rae Doorlubh had been all along in their company, (10) having come to the conclusion, (11) that as long as the English were present there was a chance of security, and no longer.

fixed to it thus, বিলিবন্দি *Bilibandi,* an arrangement, arrangement of lots.

(7) শরণাগত হইয়া *Sharanāgata hoiya.* Having become a refugee, or one come for protection, শরণ Protection, asylum, আগত Come, a Sanscrit compound of the Class *Tatpurusha* of the fourth, or dative case.

(8) আজ্ঞানুবর্ত্তী *Agnyānubartī* (Sanscrit) Obeying orders, (আজ্ঞা an order and অনুবর্ত্তী Following, imitating, obeying, from the root বৃত্ "to exist, remain," preceeded by অনু a prefix implying "after" &c.; a compound of the class *Tatpurusha* of the 2nd or accusative case.)

(9) অক্রোধ *Akrodh.* (Sanscrit) free from anger.

(10) সমভিব্যাহার *Samabhibyāhār.* (Sanscrit.) Society, association (the particles সম্ অভি বি and আঙ্ prefixed to হার from the root হৃ, to take)

(11) Literally "he had in his own mind made certainty or positive conclusion."

7. Jafir's son, Meerun, was highly dissatisfied that the affairs of Patna had been settled in this manner. It had been the purpose of both father and son to humble the powerful Hindoos and to plunder their wealth; but on this occasion such had not been the case; on the contrary their influence had been strengthened. Consequently they both began to be discontented that Clive should possess such a degree of power. Nominally, Jafir was the Nuwab of the three Provinces; but in reality he was nothing. Clive was every thing. A. D. 1758.

8. Only two years before this, the English were in the habit of giving money to seek the favor of certain great men, to speak a single good word for them to the Nuwab; now, these very persons were obliged to pay court to the English. The Moosulmans began to observe that the acute Hindoos had given up all deference to the weak Nuwab, and in every case addressed their applications direct to Clive. But the latter managed matters with such wisdom and judgment, that during his administration no manner of confusion occurred.

9. At this period a new enemy presented himself on the borders of Bengal. Shah Alum, the son of the unfortunate Emperor (12) of Delhi, having quarrelled with his father, entered into a treaty with the Soobadars (13)

(12) সম্রাট *Samrāt,* (Sanscrit) A paramount sovereign, one who rules over other princes and has performed the *Rājasūya* sacrifice (from সম্ *Sam,* a particle and prefix implying "Prefection, totality" &c. and root রাজ "to shine,") other Sanscrit words of the same meaning are of common occurrence, as রাজাধিরাজ *Rājādhirāj,* "of kings the king" চক্রবর্ত্তী *Chakrabartī,* "a Sovereign ruling a *Chakra* or dominion which extends from sea to sea." The corresponding Persian word is شاهنشاه *Shāhanshāh,* "King of kings."

(13) সুবাদার *Subādār* (Ar. and Persian صوبه‌دار *Sūbahdār.*) The Chief, Viceroy, or Lieutenant of a Province.

A. D. 1758. of Allahabad (14) and Oude, (15) and advanced with a large army to invade Behar. The object of these two Soobadars was, not so much to afford aid to the Prince, as to ascertain whether they could not appropriate to themselves, at this favorable juncture, part of the dominions of Bengal. Shah Alum addressed to Clive a letter to the following purport: "If you will assist me in the completion of my project, I will gradually bestow upon you the Governorship of each province." But Clive replied, that he was precluded from adopting a line of conduct inimical to Meer Jafir. At this same time the Emperor of Delhi addressed a mandate to Clive, enjoining the latter, if he saw his rebellious son, to immediately (16) seize him and forward him to the Imperial court. (17)

10. Meer Jafir's troops had become very refractory for want of pay: there was, therefore, not the least prospect of resisting this invasion through their instrumentality; he was consequently obliged again to apply to Clive for assistance. The latter accordingly marched with haste towards Patna, in the year 1758, but the affair had been settled in a way before his arrival. The Prince and the Soobadar of Allahabad had besieged

(14) প্রয়াগ *Prayāg*, A celebrated place of pilgrimage: the confluence of the Ganges and the Jumna with the supposed subterraneous addition of the Saraswati, hence also called ত্রিবেণী *Tribeni*, three "braids of hair" (from প্র a particle implying "excellency" &c. prefixed to the root যজ্ "to worship;" the place where worship is peculiarly efficacious) the modern "*Ilāhābād*."

(15) অযোধ্যা *Ajodhyā* (Sanscrit) the capital of Rama, the modern *Awadh*, (from অ negative particle and the root যুধ "to make war," not to be warred against.)

(16) কয়েদ *Kayed*, (from Arabic قيد *Qaed*.) Imprisonment, bondage.

(17) Literally. "Immediately on getting sight of my rebellious son, having imprisoned him, you will send him to me."

Patna for nine days, and there was no doubt the place would have fallen into their hands; but they heard that the English were approaching, and that the Soobadar of Oude, taking advantage of (18) the absence of the Soobadar of Allahabad, had treacherously possessed himself of the capital of the latter. A. D. 1758.

11. On receipt of this intelligence, the Soobadar of Allahabad requested the Prince to manage his own plans, (19) and, taking his leave, hastened to the defence of his own dominions; but he perished in that contest. Then the troops of the Prince likewise speedily deserted him, only three hundred men remaining faithful to his fortunes. (20) At length he was reduced to such straights that he sent a person to Clive to ask alms; and the latter generously sent the Prince one thousand pieces of gold. (21)

12. Meer Jafir, being thus delivered from this impending danger, as a proof of his gratitude, (22) conferred on Clive the title of Oomra, (23) and bestowed on him as a Jageer (24) the revenue which the Company had to pay

(18) সুযোগ পাইয়া *Sujog pāiyā*, having obtained the favourable opportunity.

(19) আপন উপায় আপনি চিন্তাকরুন *āpan upae āpani chintā Karun*—make thoughts or anxiety for your own expedients.

(20) Literally "making dependence on his fortune remained," অদৃষ্ট *Adrishta*, Unseen, fate, fortune.

(21) স্বর্ণমুদ্রা *Swarnamudrā* (Sanscrit) A golden coin (in general): here is meant the coin called মোহর *Mohar* from Persian مهر *muhur*, of the value of sixteen rupees.

(22) কৃতজ্ঞতা *Kritagnatā*, (Sanscrit) Gratitude (কৃতজ্ঞ Grateful "from কৃত what is done" and root জ্ঞা to know, who knows, or appreciates what is done: তা affix of quality.)

(23) উমরা *Umrā* (Arabic امرا *Umarā* pl: of امير *Amīr*) A noble: put in the plural by way of respect.

(24) জায়গী *Jaegī*. (Persian جاگير *Jaegīr*). A pension, consignment.

A. D. 1758. to the Nuwab's Court for the Zumeendaree of Calcutta. It is asserted that the amount of that revenue was three lakhs of rupees a year.

13. A short time after these events Meer Jafir came to Calcutta, and had an interview with Clive, the latter receiving (25) him with the utmost (26) respect. During his stay there, seven ships of war belonging to the Dutch, carrying 1,500 soldiers, arrived and anchored at the mouth of the river. It soon became evident that those ships had not come without the Nuwab's consent. He was in treaty with the Dutch (27) of Chinsurah, (28) to introduce such a body of European troops as should be able to keep the English in check. A merchant of Cashmere, named Khoja Wajeed was the agent in this intrigue.

14. Khojah Wajeed was a great favorite of Alivardi Khan and had possessed a monopoly (29) of the trade in salt. He had become so exceedingly wealthy, that his daily expenditure was a thousand rupees, and he on one occasion presented (30) fifteen lakhs of rupees to the Nuwab. He had formerly been the Agent (31) of

(25) সম্বর্দ্ধনা *Sambardhanā* (Sanscrit) (properly সংবর্দ্ধণা *Sang vardhanā*) Honor, respect, respectful welcome (from সম্ prefixed to বৃধ "to increase," affix অণট)

(26) যৎপরোনাস্তি *Jatparonāsti* (Sanscrit.) Than which there is nothing further or beyond. Extreme, utmost.

(27) ওলন্দাজ *Olandāj*, The Dutch, (probably a corruption of "Hollanders.")

(28) চুঁচুড়া *Chunchura*, Name of a town about 30 miles north from Calcutta, formerly belonging to the Dutch.

(29) একচাটিয়া *Ekchātiyā*, Monopoly, (from এক One and চাট to lick, the being licked or enjoyed by only one person, or এক One and চেষ্টা Effort)?

(30) নজর *Najar*, (from Arabic نظر *Nazr*) A gift (especially offered to a superior,) an offering.

(31) এজেণ্ট *Ejent*, (corruption of) Agent: the word কর্ম্মকর

the French at Moorshedabad; but when their power was destroyed by the fall (32) of Chandernagore, he came over to the English. A. D. 1759.

15. Sirajooddowlah placed great confidence in him; yet he was the principal actor in inviting the English to depose that Nuwab. After the revolution, he found that his hopes (of advantage) from the English were not fulfilled, and he therefore exerted himself to introduce a large army of Dutch, with the view of checking the English.

16. At that time there were two parties in the Council of Chinsurah. The head of one, the Governor, Mr. Bisdom, was the friend of Clive, and was extremely anxious that the peace should not by any means be broken.

17. The chief of the other party was Mr. Vernet. This party was very powerful, and, according to its opinions, all the affairs of Chinsurah were managed. The English, for their own advantage, had a short time previously forbidden the Dutch from keeping the pilots (33) of their country in the river. They therefore wrote to Batavia for a large army to be sent, hoping that, in the confusion which then existed in the country, they should be able to secure many advantages for themselves.

18. Clive was much perplexed at the arrival of that force. The English were then at peace with the Dutch, and the number of Clive's European soldiers did not amount to more than one-third of those belonging to the Dutch. Nevertheless he entered upon the business with his characteristic courage and fearlessness. It was on this occasion that he made the observation, that every Officer of the Indian Government ought always to act with the feeling that he had a rope round his neck.

or কর্ম্মকারক doer of business, might be substituted.

(32) পরাজয় *Parājay*, (Sanscrit) Defeat (from পরা a particle implying "Inverted order" &c. prefixed to জয় "Victory.")

(33) নাবিক *Nābik*, (Sanscrit) A navigator, pilot.

A. D. 1759.

19. Clive, when he destroyed the French ascendancy in India, had determined that he would not allow the Dutch to gain strength. He therefore now made this demand (34) from Meer Jafir that he should immediately command the whole Dutch force to depart. The Nuwab replied that he would himself proceed to Hoogly and settle this matter, but on his arrival there, he wrote to Clive that he had arranged with the Dutch, that immediately the proper season arrived all their ships should depart.

20. Clive saw through his cunning, (35) and resolved that it was not proper to allow the Dutch fleet to move further up the river (36). He accordingly began to strengthen the fort of Tanah, to the south of Calcutta; but determined not to be the first to commence hostilities. Immediately the Dutch fleet arrived off that Fort, it commenced an attack, but was repulsed. The Dutch then retired a little, and disembarked 700 European, and 800 Malay (37) soldiers, the whole of which force advanced by land, on the West Bank of the Ganges, towards Chinsurah. Clive had already appointed Colonel Forde commander of the Troops, and sent him to post his small force between Chinsurah and Chandernagore.

21. The Dutch force advanced leisurely, and encamped at the distance of one coss to the south of Chinsurah. Forde was aware that the two nations were at peace; he, therefore, instead of attacking them at once, wrote off to the Council for a distinct order. Clive was playing at cards (38) when the letter arrived. Without rising from

(34) দাওয়া *Dāwā* (from Arabic دعوى *Dawā*) claim, pretension. The Sanscrit, word অভিযোগ might be used in this sense.

(35) Literally,—"having understood the hidden meaning of this craftiness."

(36) উজাইয়া *Ujāiyā*, moving against the stream.

(37) মালাই *Mālāī*, Malay, native of Malacca.

(38) তাস *Tās* (Hindee.) The Cards, a game at cards.

the table (39) he wrote in pencil (40) the following reply: "Dearest (friend)! Fight them immediately. To-morrow I will send you the Order of Council." A. D. 1759.

22. Immediately on the receipt of this order, Forde attacked the Dutch, and overthrew them in half an hour. All their ships, likewise, which had entered the mouth of the river, fell at the same time into the hands of the English. Thus this great enterprize of the Dutch ended in smoke. (41)

23. Instantly after this engagement the Prince Meerun arrived at Chinsurah, with six or seven thousand cavalry. He would no doubt have joined the Dutch had they been victorious; but now, of necessity, he united himself with the English, and hastened in pursuit of the Dutch. Colonel Forde immediately after the battle invested Chinsurah. That town could not long have held out; but the Dutch quickly asked pardon of Clive, who, accordingly, raised the siege (42), and afterwards, on their agreeing to pay all the expenses of the war, also released their ships.

24. Clive had undergone great labour for three successive years: his bodily health was in consequence greatly impaired. Accordingly, at the close of the above transactions, in the month of Febuary, 1760, he took his departure for England, loaded with wealth and honors, and the Goverment was transferred to the hands of Mr, Vansittart.

25. There was no prospect of this country being altogether without trials. The old Nuwab, Meer Jafir, had

(39) মেজ *Mej*, (from Persian ميز *Mez*,) A Table.

(40) পেন্‌সিল *Pensil*, (English.) A Pencil.

(41) ধূমশেষ *Dhūmashesh*, (Sanscrit) (a compound noun adjective of the *Bahuvrīhi* class, from ধূম "Smoke" and শেষ "remainder.") That of which smoke is the only remnant or remainder.

(42) Literally.—" did not take possession of the said town."

A. D. 1760. transferred to his son Meerun the burthen of government; and the associated Prince having begun to display harshness towards the officers, and to exercise great tyranny towards the subjects, all were dissatisfied with his rule. In fact he had engaged in such cruel practices, that the people forgot the bad actions of Sirajooddowlah.

26. Shah Alum, the son of the Emperor of Delhi, observing this general discontent, was encouraged to attempt a second invasion of Behar. The Governor of Purneah, Kadim Hoosein Khan, prepared to join him with his army. But Shah Alum had no sooner crossed the Karamnasa (43) and set foot in the border of Behar, than he received intelligence that the prime minister of the Empire, Imad-ool-Moolk, who was noted for his cruelty, had put the Emperor to death. By this event he became Emperor of India, and he appointed the Soobadar of Oude to the post of minister of the Empire. But he was Emperor only in name; for he had neither power nor subjects, his very capital was in the hands of his enemies, and he was himself a sort of fugitive in his own kingdom.

27. He immediately marched towards Patna. Ramnarayun, overcome with apprehension, made a kind of effort to defend the city, and wrote a highly supplicatory letter to Moorshedabad, in order to obtain assistance. Colonel Calliaud, who was at that time commander of the forces, immediately marched with the English army, and Meerun also accompanied him with his forces.

(43) কর্ম্মনাশা *Karmmanāshā*, (Sanscrit) (from কর্ম্ম Deed, action and নাশা Destroying) A small river that separates the province of Behar from that of Benares. By the contact alone of its baleful waters, devotees suppose they lose the fruit and efficacy of their religious austerities and pilgrimages. (Also written "*Caramnassa*." See Hamilton's Gazetteer. The word is usually pronounced "*Karamnāsā*," agreeably to the Hindee pronunciation.)

28 This wicked monster (44) Meerun had a short time previously punished with death two of his ministers, and had, with own hand, cut off the heads of two concubines. (45) Two daughters of Aliverdy Khan, Ghesity Begum and Iman Begum, after the death of their respective husbands, Nivaces Mahommed and Syed Ahmud, resided in retirement at Dacca. Meerun, when he was departing for the war, sent orders to put them both to death, and on the Governor of Dacca refusing to perform so cruel a duty, he eventually deputed one of his servants to put them on board a boat, under pretence of conveying them to Moorshedabad, and in the way to sink them, along with (46) the boat, in the river. A. D. 1760.

29. The instructions were strictly observed (47) When the murderers approached to draw out a plug, for the purpose of sinking the boat, the youngest of the two sisters exclaimed, in a mournful voice. "O Almighty (48) Lord of the universe, (49) we are both, indeed, great sin-

(44) দুরাত্মা *Durātmā*, (Sanscrit) Vile, wicked, unjust (from দুর a particle implying "Bad" &c. and আত্মন "soul.")

(45) ভোগ্যা কামিনী *Bhogyā Kāminī*, (Sanscrit) Literally—an enjoyable woman (from ভোগ্য "Enjoyable" and কামিনী a loving woman, a woman in general.)

(46) সমেত *Samet*, (Sanscrit.) Together with, along with (সম "with" and ইত "Gone." "Collected, associated," being a participle used as an adverb, or rather postposition : in this case in Sanscrit it would be put in the neuter gender as সমেতং সহিতং &c.)

(47) প্রতিপালিত *Pratipālita* (Sanscrit) Protected, cherished, Practised, followed (প্রতি a prefix and the root পাল্ to guard, preserve, protect.)

(48) সর্ব্বশক্তিমন্ *Sarbbashaktiman* (Sanscrit) O Almighty (Vocative case : the Nominative is সর্ব্বশক্তিমান্ The crude form is সর্ব্বশক্তিমৎ, from সর্ব্ব "all," শক্তি power, and the affix মতু, implying "Being, existence.")

(49) জগদীশ্বর *Jagadīshwar* (Sanscrit) Lord of the universe (a

A. D. 1760.

ners (50) and transgressors, (51) but we have never transgressed against Meerun : on the contrary, (52) we are the source of all his present power."

30. Meerun had on his departure inserted in his memorandum book the names of three hundred persons, with the view of inflicting capital pnishment upon them on his return ; but it was not his fate ever to come back.

31. Colonel Calliaud had urgently requested (53) Ramnarayun not to risk an engagement with the Emperor till his arrival; but he, rejecting this counsel, marched out of the city to engage the Emperor, and suffered a total defeat. Patna was now utterly without defence, and the Emperor might, with a single effort, have taken the city ; but, instead of at once turning his attention to this, he wasted his time in plundering the country. In the meantime Calliaud arrived with all his army, and immediately made arrangements for attacking the enemy ; but Meerun asserted that the planets would not be favourable before the 22nd February, and the proposed attack was, therefore, suspended. (54)

compound word of the Class "*Tatpurusha* of the sixth or Genitive case" from জগৎ "the Universe" and ঈশ্বর Lord.)

(50) পাপীয়সী *Pāpīyasī* (Sanscrit) Exceedingly sinful (the feminine form : masculine পাপীয়ান্ crude form পাপীয়স্ from পাপ Sin, and ঈয়স্ affix of the superlative degree.)

(51) অপরাধিনী *Aparādhinī* (Sanscrit) faulty (the feminine form ; masculine অপরাধী : crude form অপরাধিন্ from অপরাধ "fault: and ইনি affix of "being, existing.")

(52) প্রত্যুত *Pratyuta* (Sanscrit) On the contrary, on the other hand, otherwise, (প্রতি a particle and prefix implying "Substitution," &c. and উত a particle of doubt, deliberation, &c.)

(53) অনুরোধ *Anurodh* (Sanscrit) Constraint, persuasion, solicitation (from অনু a particle implying "after, following," &c. and রুধ্ "to confine, obstruct, besiege.")

(54) স্থগিত *Sthagita* (Sanscrit) Concealed, stopped, ceased (past participle from the root স্থগ্ "to conceal.")

32. On the 20th the Emperor made a simultaneous attack on the armies of both; Meerun's 15,000 horse at once broke and fled, but Colonel Calliaud attacked the Emperor's forces with firmness and valour, and speedily defeated them. In the course of that night Shah Alum broke up his camp, and took up a position at the distance of five coss from the field of battle. He then, by the advice of his Generals, marched away secretly, by mountain roads, in the hopes of getting possession of Moorshedabad. A. D. 1760.

33. This march was performed with great expedition; but Meerun also, having got scent of the design, (55) sent intelligence by a swift boat to his father of this apprehended danger. Very soon after, the Emperor descended from the mountains, at the distance of fifteen coss from Moorshedabad, but, instead of speedily making an attack, he wasted his time in the neighbouring country. In this interval Colonel Calliaud also came up in pursuit of him. Both armies now pitched their camps within sight of each other. The English prepared for battle; but the Emperor was suddenly seized with a sudden panic and, retreating to Patna, laid hot siege to that city. Then the Governor of Purneah, Kadim Hoosein Khan, also marched with his troops to his assistance.

34. The Emperor assaulted Patna on nine successive days, and it seemed certain that that city would fall into his hands. At that crisis Captain Knox reached Patna with a very small force. He had been despatched by Colonel Calliaud, and arrived there from Burdwan in 13 days. That same night he reconnoitered (56) the enemy's camp, and attacked it the next day, at the time of their

(55) সন্ধান পাইয়া *Shandhān pāiyā.* "Having obtained a guess or a cue."

(56) পরীক্ষা করিয়া *Parīkhyā kariyā.* "Having made a trial or examination of."

A. D. 1760. mid-day repose. The Emperor's army was totally defeated, and he fled, after having set fire to his camp.

35. One or two days after this, Kadim Hoosein Khan reached Hajeepore (57) with a force of 16,000 men, and prepared to attack Patna; but Captain Knox, with a force of not more than a thousand men, including both Europeans and Natives, crossed the Ganges, and totally defeated him. This victory must be considered an affair of uncommon gallantry, and the natives observing it, became convinced that the English were men of great prowess. In this engagement Rajah Shitab Roy displayed such extraordinary bravery, that the English gave him the highest (58) praise.

36. After the defeat, the Governor of Purneah marched to join the Emperor, and Colonel Calliaud and Meerun united in pursuit of him. Although the rainy season had commenced, still the English commander did not give up the pursuit. During the night of the second of July, of the year 1760, there occurred a violent storm (59) accompanied with thunder. Meerun was sitting in his tent (60) listening to a story, when a flash of lightning killed him and two of his attendants. In conse-

(57) হাজীপুর *Hājīpur*. The "City of the Hajee." (Arabic حاجي *Hājī* "One who has performed the *Hajj*, or Pilgrimage to Mecca.") A town in the province of Behar, district of Tirhoot, noted for an annual horse fair, which is held in the vicinity, in November, (also written Hadjypore: see Hamilton's Gazetteer.)

(58) ভূয়িষ্ঠ *Bhūyishtha*. Very many, much, most (ভূ substituted for বহু much, and ইষ্ঠ a superlative affix.)

(59) ঝড় *Jhar* (Bengalee.) A hurricane, storm, tempest (constructed with the verb কর it signifies to scold, or kick up a dust.)

(60) পটগৃহ *Patagriha* (Sanscrit) A Tent (from পট Cloth, and গৃহ a house. Also পটকুটি পটমণ্ডপ, &c.) The word তাঁবু *Tānbū* (from Hindee তম্বু *Tambū*) is commonly used.

quence of this misfortune, Colonel Calliaud gave up the pursuit of Kadim Hoosein, and returning to Patna, fixed his quarters there on account of the rains. A. D. 1760.

37. Meerun was an extremely wicked man, but at the same time he was the chief support of his father's power. The Moosulman Historian of that period relates, that the little understanding and judgment which the silly and sensual Nuwab had before possessed, now entirely disappeared. The greatest confusion arose in the affairs of the Government. The troops besieged the palace for arrears of pay, and were ready to mutiny. At this crisis the Nuwab's son-in-law, Meer Kasim, presented himself to them, and said that he was willing to satisfy them from his own funds. (61)

38. The English had an expensive war on their hands; (62) but no means (63) for carrying it on. Formerly much wealth had come into their possession; but the whole of this, as it had come without expectation, had disappeared (64) without observation. They therefore applied to the Nuwab for money; but his treasury was empty. In fact, the English had fallen into such difficulties, that they could no longer go on without incurring debt; but it seemed evident, that this state of things could not be of long continuation.

39. The Nuwab had despatched Meer Kasim, as his Ambassador to Calcutta, (65) where his talents were

(61) Literally—"and said, I agree, I will make you content by means of my own wealth."

(62) Literally—"for the English, a war practicable by great expenditure was present."

(63) সংস্থান *Shangsthān* (Sanscrit) A form, figure, construction, a heap, a stock, wealth (the particle সম্ implying "union, perfection &c." before স্থা "to stay, abide.")

(64) ব্যয়িত *Byayita* (Sanscrit) gone, expended, spent. (Passive participle, from বি before, অয় to go, move, expend, disburse.)

(65) Literally—"having appointed Meer Kasim to the duty of ambassadorship, had despatched him to Calcutta."

A. D. 1760. displayed before Mr. Vansittart and Mr. Hastings, whose opinions at that time entirely ruled the affairs of the Company. A necessity for sending an ambassador having again occurred, Meer Kasim was deputed a second time. A deep conviction arose in the mind of the Governor, that this person alone was capable of conducting the Government of Bengal. He then proposed to bestow on him the rank of Deputy Nazim of the three Provinces, and Meer Kasim immediately agreed to the arrangement. On this both Vansittart and Hastings, accompanied by a military force, proceeded to Moorshedabad. On their bringing forward the above mentioned proposal to Meer Jafir, the latter displayed great disinclination to the measure. He could preceive that if the matter were thus arranged, then all the power would at once fall into the hands of his son-in-law, and that he himself would become almost a puppet in his own council-chamber. (66)

40. Mr. Vansittart, seeing the Nuwab's repugnance, hesitated.(67) Meer Kasim threatened that he would proceed to the Emperor: for he saw plainly, that after going so far (68) he could never remain safe in Moorshedabad. Mr. Vansittart, now judging that it was necessary to carry the business through by force, ordered English troops to take possession of the Palace. At the sight of these, Meer Jafir, through necessity, (69) gave his assent.

41. It was then proposed to assign him a residence

(66) সভামণ্ডপ *Shabhāmandap* (Sanscrit.) A council chamber, hall of council, (from সভা an assembly, a royal court, the sitting of the King in council, and মণ্ডপ a house, a shed)

(67) দোলায়মান চিত্ত *Dolāyaymāna-Chitta* (Sanscrit.) Doubtful, perplexed (from দোলায়মান swinging, oscillating, vacillating, and চিত্ত the mind, heart: a compound word of the *Bahuvrihi* class. "Oscillating or vacillating (is whose) mind."

(68) কাণ্ড *Kānda* (Sanscrit.) A stem, a section, a chapter.

(69) অগত্যা *Agatyā* (Sanscrit.) From helplessness, without re-

either at Moorshedabad or Calcutta. He considered that if he remained at Moorshedabad, he would have to be a mere puppet (70) in the place where he had so long exercised Sovereignty, and to endure the disrespect of his son-in-law, and that it would, therefore, be best for him to proceed to Calcutta. A. D. 1760.

42. He had made a common dancing girl his favorite, and had become quite subservient to her will. She afterwards became well known as Muni Begum. The Moosulman historian (71) relates, that this woman and Meer Jafir, before their departure, entered the female apartments, and taking possession of the incomparable jewels accumulated by the former Nuwabs, proceeded to Calcutta, surrounded by guards.

source, without power to choose, (the third case of অগতি "the state of being without resource or help, helplessness.")

(70) ধামাধরা *Dhāmādharā* (Bengalee) a Basket-holder. Especially one who follows about a mendicant to collect his alms—here it implies a humble follower, one who goes wherever his principal chooses to lead.

(71) পুরাবৃত্ত লেখক *Purāvritta lekhak.* (Sanscrit) A Historian (from পুরাবৃত্ত History, any old or legendary event, and লেখক a writer.)

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CHAPTER XIV.

1760. A. D.

1. On the fourth of March, in the year 1760, the English made Meer Kasim the Soobadar of Bengal and Bahar. As a return for this favor, he gave the Honorable Company the proprietorship of the District of Burdwan, and he presented the members of the Council of Calcutta with twenty lakhs of rupees, which they divided among themselves, according to their respective ranks.

2. Meer Kasim was a very energetic and talented man. Immediately on his accession to the (Vice-regal) throne, he first prepared a correct account of the sums to be paid to the English, and to Meer Jafir's troops and servants and his own; and he then began to consider the means for discharging these sums. He reduced the expenses of the Court, and began to look with scrutiny (1) into all the accounts, and he commenced retrieving from the officers of Government the sums which they had fraudulently taken (2) during the lax rule of Meer Jafir. He was not content with only recovering (3) from the Zemindars their arrears, (4) but made a new settlement of their

(1) অভিনিবেশ *Abhinibesh.* (Sanscrit.) Intentness, perseverance, determination, (অভি a particle implying "superiority, power, nearness, &c." and নি implying "in, within, &c." prefixed to বিশ "to enter" affix ঘঞ)

(2) অপহরণ *Apaharan* (Sanscrit.) Taking away, carrying off, stealing (অপ a particle implying privation, impropriety, dishonesty &c. prefixed to Root হৃ to take, affix অনট্)

(3) আদায় *Ādāe* (Sanscrit,) Taking receiving, obtaining.

(4) বাকি *Bākī* (from Arabic باقي *Bāqī*) Remainder, balance

Zemindarees. The yearly revenue of the two provinces under his authority had before been fixed at 1,42,45,000 (5) Rupees; he raised the amount to 2,56,24,000 (6). In fact he fixed the revenue much higher than his subjects were able to pay. A. D. 1760.

3. By all these arrangements his treasury was filled, and he was enabled to clear off all arrears of debt. By paying his troops regularly he kept them entirely under subjection. The English indeed had raised him to his sovereignty; but his chief endeavour was to free himself from his dependence on them. He remarked, that although he was indeed acknowledged by all as the Nuwab, yet all real power was in the hands of the English, and he likewise perceived, that he could never release himself from the authority of the English, except by a display of power. He consequently devoted (7) himself to the improvement and increase of his army. He discharged all the soldiers who had become unfit for duty. He began to instruct his troops according to the English system, and he appointed an Armenian as the commander of the Army.

4. This person was a Native of Isfahan in Persia. His name was Gurghin or Gregory Khan. He possessed great talents and judgment. At first he was only a com-

arrear (the Sanscrit word অবিশিষ্ট has the same meaning: perhaps টাকা would be here added, using the former adjective.)

(5) One Crore, forty-two lakhs, and forty-five thousands, or fourteen millions and two hundred and forty-five thousands. Equal to about one million, four hundred and twenty-four thousands, and five hundred Pounds sterling.

(6) Two Crore, fifty-six lakhs, and twenty-four thousand, or twenty-five million and six hundred and twenty-four thousand, equal to about £2,562,400.

(7) তৎপর *Tatpar* (Sanscrit) Diligent, attending to anything closely and anxiously (তৎ that and পর addicted to or best, pre-eminent: that is pre-eminent for whom?)

A. D. 1760. mon cloth merchant, but as he had a great aptitude for military affairs, Meer Kasim appointed him to a post in the army. He also began to zealously devise plans for freeing his master from his dependence on the English. He commenced preparing musquets and cannon, and instructing Artillerymen. In fact, the troops instructed by him turned out superior to any that had ever been attached to any ruler in Bengal.

5. Meer Kasim, in order to carry out his designs without the cognizance of the English, quitted Moorshedabad and made Monghyr (8) his capital. There his Armenian General established a cannon foundry. (9) The fame which this town still enjoys for skill in the manufacture of musquets owes its origin to this Gurghin Khan, (10) whose age at this time did not exceed thirty years.

6. The Emperor, Shah Alum, was still moving about on the borders of Bahar. Therefore as soon as the rainy season of the year 1760 was ended, Major Carnac marched against him, and gave him a total overthrow. After the engagement Major Carnac deputed to him Rajah Shitab Roy with proposals of peace, which, being accepted, the English commander proceeded to the Emperor's Camp, and paid him due respect.

7. Meer Kasim was much concerned on hearing the news of this pacification between the Emperor and the English, and, in order to obviate any ill effects to himself,

(8) মুঙ্গের *Munger*. Name of a celebrated town and fortress in the province of Bahar, and district of Boglipore, situated on the South side of the Ganges, 250 miles North West of Calcutta, (Hamilton derives the name from the Sanscrit মুদ্গিরি *Mudgiri* "Hill of delight.")

(9) কারখানা *Kārkhānā* (from Persian كارخانه *Kārkhāna*, a work shop, manufactory, arsenal, dockyard, or any place where public works are carried on كار business, work and خانه a house.)

(10) Literally—"this Gurghin Khan was its original cause."

he proceeded hastily to Patna. Major Carnac pressed him to have an interview with the Emperor; but, being a very haughty man, he would not agree; at length it was arranged that they should both meet at the English factory. (11) A. D. 1760.

8. A temporary throne was erected, on which the Emperor of Hindoostan, the descendant of Timoor, a fugitive in his own kingdom, seated himself. Meer Kasim presented himself with the proper salutations; and on the Emperor's investing him with the Soobadary of Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa, he agreed to pay a tribute of twenty-four lakhs a year. The Emperor then took his departure for Delhi, and Major Carnac accompanied him as far as the banks of the Caramnassa. When the Emperor there took leave of Carnac he intimated that he would bestow the Dewany (12) of the three Provinces on the English whenever they should apply for it. It is proper here to mention, that in the year 1755 Orissa had been separated from the other Soobahs and given to the Mahrattas: only the portion to the North of the Sooburnarekha (13) remained, and that portion alone was called (14) Orissa.

9. Kasim Ali had brought under entire subjection all the Zumeendars, except Ramnarayun, the Governor of Patna. The latter was celebrated as a wealthy man; but reposed in the shade of English protection (15). He had not cleared off his accounts for three years; but it must be borne in mind, that the country of Bahar was at that

(11) কুঠী *Kuthi* (Sanscrit কোষ্ঠ *Koshtha* Hindee কোঠী *Kothi*) A warehouse, granary, storehouse, factory.

(12) দেওয়ানি *Dewānī* (from Persian ديوانى *Dīwanī*) the office of Dewan, the Civil administration.

(13) সুবর্ণরেখা *Subarnarekhā* (Sanscrit.) (সুবর্ণ Gold, and রেখা a Line) Name of a River in Oorissa. Generally written "Subunreka."

(14) ব্যবহৃত *Byabahrita.* (Sanscrit) used, practised, mentioned.

(15) Literally—"he sat in the protection-shade of the English."

A. D. 1760. period subjected to the greatest outrages at the hands of invaders. The Nuwab wrote to the English, that he could not discharge his debt to them, unless his arrears were recovered from Ramnarayun.

10. At that time there were two parties in the Council of Calcutta, one opposed to Meer Kasim, the other, in his favor. Governor Vansittart belonged to the latter, and in the end his party prevailed. The English withdrew their troops from Patna: consequently Ramnarayun became quite helpless, and the Nuwab lost no time in having him seized and imprisoned. But although he subjected his ministers to great torture to induce them to point out his secret treasury, still no greater sum was obtained than was sufficient for the current expenses of the Government (16). This transaction must be considered one of the greatest errors in the Government (17) of Mr. Vansittart, as by it was totally destroyed the confidence which the Natives had in the faithfulness of the English towards those who fled to them for refuge.

11. Meer Kasim had up to this period ruled without contention. We will now relate how he was deposed from his power, through the grasping conduct (18) of the Company's Officers.

12. In India the greater part of the revenue used to be derived from duties levied on goods taken from one country to another. This mode of raising revenue must be called a kind (19) of barbarism, for it entailed extreme

(16) গবর্ণমেণ্ট *Gabarnment*, corruption of the English "Government." We might use শাসন, রাজশাসন or, রাজকার্য্য.

(17) Here অধিকার or আধিপত্য would be better.

(18) আত্মম্ভরিতা *Atmambharitā* (Sanscrit) selfishness, greediness (from আত্মন "self" and the Root ভৃ "to nourish" with ি an affix of the agent: আত্মম্ভরি, Selfish, greedy; and then তা affix, denoting "nature, duty, conduct.")

(19) প্রথা *Prathā* (Sanscrit.) Custom, practice (from প্রথ to be famous, well known.)

injury on commerce, but at this period it was very much practised, and even the English did not abolish it before the year 1835. Ever since the time when the Company obtained leave to trade by the payment of an annual tribute (20) of three thousand rupees, no duty was levied on their goods. The Chief of Calcutta used to sign a pass, (21) and on this being shown at the Customs station, (22) the goods used to pass free of duty. A. D. 1762.

13. This privilege extended only to the Company's own trade; but when the English set up a Nuwab of their own, and rose to be very powerful in the country, then all the Company's Civil (23) and Military Officers also commenced trading on their own private account. As long as Clive was in the country, they continued to pay duty in the usual way, like the Native Merchants, but as soon as he went home, and the Members of the Council placed a new Nuwab on the throne, then they became still more powerful, and begun to carry on trade free of duty. In fact they became so influential, that the Nuwab's Officers dared not in any way to interfere with them.

14. By degrees they become worse and worse. Their Agents, (24) in order to evade the payment of duties, used at their own discretion, to hoist the English flag, and gave the greatest annoyance to the Native merchants and to the Government Officers. Any individual carrying in his hand a pass, signed by any Englishman whatever, considered

(20) পেস্কস *Peshkash* (from Persian پیش کش *Peshkash)* A present, tribute.

(21) দস্তক *Dastak,* (from Persian دستک *Dastak*) A pass, passport.

(22) মাসুল *Māshul* (from Persian محصول *Mahsul)* Any thing produced, tax, duty.

(23) সিবিল *Shibil.* Corruption of "Civil."

(24) গোমাস্তা *Gomāshtā* (from Persian گماشته *Gumāshta* literally "sent, commissioned") An Agent, a factor.

A. D. 1762. himself as powerful as the Honorable Company itself. If the Nuwab's people made the least objection (25) in any matter, the European gentlemen would send Sepoys (26) to seize them, and would imprison them. If any boatmen wished to convey goods any where without duty they just hoisted the Company's flag on the boat.

15. In fact the Nuwab's influence was in this way, altogether destroyed. The ruin of the Native merchants was imminent. The English grandees gradually become possessed of unbounded wealth. The Nuwab's revenue fell off exceedingly. For the English gentlemen did not only decline payment of customs themselves, but even those who announced themselves as their servants evaded, under the shelter of their name, the payment of duties. Meer Kasim complained several times to the Council against these unjust proceedings. At length he threatened, that if they did not put a stop to them, he would resign the Government (27).

16. Mr. Vansittart and Mr. Hastings used every effort to put an end to all this injustice; but the other Members of Council were amassing wealth by these malpractices: consequently their efforts were vain. At length matters rose to such a pitch, (28) that the Native Merchants were obliged to buy and sell at the rate fixed by the Company's Agents. Meer Kasim now reckoned the English among his foes, and there appeared every chance of a rupture between the two parties.

17. To avert this, Mr. Vansittart proceeded in person to Monghyr, and had an interview with the Nuwab,

(25) আপত্তি *Āpatti* (Sanscrit) Remonstrance, expostulation.

(26) সিপাই *Sipāī* (from Persian سپاهي *Sipāhī*) A Soldier.

(27) Literally.—"At length speaking thus, he showed (or held out) to them fear (or danger): your honors not putting a stop to this, I will abandon the possession of the Government."

(28) বাড়াবাড়ি *Bārābāri.* (Bengalee) Great increase, excess.

who also received him with friendly feelings. Then, on matters of business being brought forward, the Nuwab expressed the highest dissatisfaction, and made numerous complaints (29) regarding the injury inflicted on the country by the oppression of the Company's officers, and by their trading without payment of duties. Mr. Vansittart first conciliated him in every possible way, and then proposed that all, both Natives and English, should be made to pay at the same rate for every commodity, namely at the rate of nine per cent.; but, as he himself had not authority to make such an arrangement, he would therefore proceed to Calcutta, and advise the gentlemen of the Council to adopt the plan. The Nuwab agreed, with much reluctance, to this proposal; but he declared that if by these means the irregularities should not be stopped, he would at once abolish all customs, and thus place both Natives and Europeans on the same footing. A. D. 1762.

18. Mr. Vansittart hastened to Calcutta for the purpose of bringing this matter before the Council; but Meer Kasim, without waiting for their consent, at once sent orders to the officers of Customs, that they should exact from the English also a duty of *nine per cent.* The latter refused to pay, and put the Nuwab's officers in prison. (30) The Chiefs of all the factories, quitting their stations, (31) hastened to Calcutta. All except Hastings rejected with disdain (32) the proposal made by Mr. Vansittart regarding the duty of nine per cent.

(29) অনুযোগ *Anujog* (Sanscrit) Censure, reproof (অনু a particle implying "after, together with" before the Root যুজ "to join," affix ঘঞ্)

(30) কয়েদ *Kayed* (from Arabic قيد *Qaed*) A fetter, imprisonment, bondage.

(31) কর্ম্মস্থান *Karmmasthān* (Sanscrit) Place of business.

(32) অবজ্ঞা *Abayuyā* (Sanscrit.) Disrespect (অব a particle deno-

CENTRAL ARCHAE (New De

A. D. 1762. and declared they would pay only a duty of two and a half per cent. on Salt.

19. At that time Meer Kasim was not in Bengal, having gone on a hostile expedition into Nepal. In this he failed, and on his return he learned that the gentlemen of the Council had refused to pay duties, and had imprisoned his officers. On this, without the slightest delay, he acted up to his previous threat, that is to say, he abolished all duties on merchandise in Bengal and Bahar.

20. The Members of the Council on hearing this, were highly incensed, (33) and declared that the Nuwab must, as formerly, exact duties from his subjects, and permit the English to trade free of taxes. A violent dispute (34) arose on this point: Mr. Hastings asserted "Meer Kasim is a paramount Ruler, why shall he not consult the benefit of his own subjects?" Mr. Batson, the chief of the factory at Dacca, observed that such a remark would come well enough from the agents of the Nuwab, but it did not become a Member of Council. Hastings replied that none but a rascal (35) would utter such a speech.

21. In this violent style the Members of Council began to argue this important measure. At length it was resolved that the rate of duty formerly fixed should be continued on the trade of natives only, and that Messrs. Amyatt and Hay should go to Meer Kasim to urge this matter. Accordingly, these persons, on their arrival, held several interviews with the Nuwab, and at first it appeared probable that all matters might be arranged; but by the bad conduct of Mr. Ellis, the chief

ting "depreciation" &c. before the Root জ্ঞা "to know" affix অল্ and আপ্ for the feminine.)

(33) Literally—"blind with rage."

(34) বিতণ্ডা *Bitandā* (Sanscrit) Controversy, argument, criticism (বি before "তড্ to beat.")

(35) পাজী *Pājī* (from Persian پاجي *Pājī*) Mean, base.

of the Patna factory, all hopes of an amicable arrangement were at once broken off. This person was the most unruly of all the Company's Officers. The Nuwab dismissed Mr. Amyatt; but he detained Mr. Hay as a hostage for those of his Officers who were imprisoned in Calcutta. Mr. Ellis, thinking Mr. Amyatt out of the Nuwab's power, suddenly seized on Patna; but his troops having got drunk, became unmanageable, and a large force of the Nuwab's having arrived, recovered possession of the city. Ellis and several other Europeans were cast into prison. A. D. 1763.

22. Kasim Ali on hearing these accounts of Patna, concluded that an immediate rupture with the English must inevitably occur. He therefore sent orders to imprison all the Officers of the factories in the interior (36) and to intercept Mr. Amyatt's progress towards Calcutta. Mr. Amyatt had arrived at Patna when these instructions reached the Governor of the city, who accordingly sent for that gentleman. On the latter disregarding this order, a tumult arose, in which he was killed. Meer Kasim suspected the great merchants of the Seth family of being in the interest of the English: he accordingly had them brought from Moorshedabad to Monghyr and put them in prison.

23. On the arrival in Calcutta of the news of Mr. Amyatt's death and the imprisonment of Mr. Ellis and his followers, the Members of the Council immediately resolved to commence hostilities. Messrs. Vansittart and Hastings used great efforts to persuade them, that it would be proper to delay, at least till the release of the gentlemen whom Meer Kasim had imprisoned in Patna should be effected, but in vain. According to the opinion

(36) মফঃসল *Maphahsal* (from Arabic مفصل *Mufassal*) the country, in opposition to the town (a meaning peculiar to India—literally, "distinct, diffused.")

A. D. 1763. of the majority of the members, the forces of the English took the field. (37) At this juncture Meer Jafir agreed, that the former duty should continue only on the commerce of natives, and that Europeans should be allowed to trade without duties: and the Members of Council resolved, in consequence, to restore him to the throne. The Septuagenarian (38) Meer Jafir had almost become a cripple from the leprosy; still he now proceeded, escorted by English troops, towards Moorshedabad, to once more become a Nuwab.

24. Meer Kasim had taken endless pains to bring his troops into good order, and indeed no governor of Bengal had ever possessed such excellent soldiers. His Commander-in-Chief, Gurghin Khan, also possessed extraordinary talents in military matters. Nevertheless the present war was ended in a very short time. In consequence of the want of unanimity amongst the Nuwab's generals, his army was defeated at Cutwah, on the 19th of July, of the year 1763. On the 24th the English, having routed the troops of the Nuwab's that were posted at Motee Jheel, (39) took Moorshedabad. On the 2nd of August another battle was fought at a place called Geriah, near Sooty. (40) In this also Meer Kasim's army was again

(37) যুদ্ধক্ষেত্রে অবতীর্ণ হইল *Juddhákhyetre abatīrna hoila*—literally "descended into the field of battle."

(38) বায়ত্তরিয়া Of seventy-two (years of age.)

(39) মতিঝিল *Matijhil* (in Hindee मोतीझील *Matijhil* from मोती (Sanscrit मुक्तिका) a pearl, and झील a lake.) The Pearl Lake, a name given to many lakes and large ponds, to denote the clearness of the water.

(40) সুতি *Suti*. Name of a town in the Province of Bengal thirty miles N. N. W. from Moorshedabad. In 1757, Sirajooddowlah caused immense piles to be driven into the Eastern branch of the Ganges at this place, believing that the English ships of war could proceed up this branch to the Northern point of Cossimbazar Island, and thence down the Bhagirathi to Moorshedabad.

defeated. The whole of the troops fled for refuge to a strong entrenchment which he had thrown up at Ooduya Nala, near Rajmuhal. A. D. 1763.

25. During all these engagements he was at Monghyr; but he now resolved to join the army at Ooduya Nala. Before his departure he put to death all the Native prisoners. He fastened a bag full of sand round the neck of Ramnarayun, the Ex-Governor of Purneah, and threw him into the river. He also executed Rajah Rajbullubh with all his sons, including Krishna Dass, who has been before mentioned, and put to death Rae Rayan, Rajah Oomaid Singh, Rajah Booniyad Singh, Rajah Futeh Singh and several others. Two rich merchants of the Seth family he hurled from a bastion of the Fort of Monghyr into the river. For a long time the boatmen on passing that place used to point out the spot where these two unfortunates were slain.

26. Kasim Ali, after completing all these murders, joined the force stationed at Ooduya Nala. In the beginning of October the English attacked the Nuwab's camp and defeated him. A day or two after this defeat he departed to Monghyr; but thinking it impracticable to oppose the English force which was pursuing him, he fled with his army to Patna, taking along with him the few English who had fallen into his hands.

27. The day after quitting Monghyr his army reached the banks of the Rewah. At that place there arose a great commotion in his camp. Every one was ready to cross the river, when there appeared several persons carrying a corpse to bury it. On enquiry they said it was the body of Gurghin Khan, the Commander-in-Chief, and this had occurred according to the will of the Nuwab. It came out that in the evening (41) three or four Moguls

(41) বিকাল *Bikāl.* (Sanscrit) Twilight, evening, late in the afternoon: বি implying "prohibition" (of peculiar ceremonies) and কাল "time."

A. D. 1763. had entered his tent, and slain him. It was given out that they had gone to the Commander to ask for their arrears of pay, but he had ordered them to be driven away, on which they drew their swords and murdered him. The fact was, that no pay was then due to them; they had been paid nine days previously.

28. At all events this seems in a manner certain, that Kasim Ali had treacherously sent them to kill his Commander-in-Chief, Gurghin Khan. A brother of the latter, named Khojah Petroos, resided in Calcutta, and was on terms of great friendship with Messrs. Vansittart and Hastings. He had secretly written a letter to Gurghin, urging him to quit the Nuwab's service, and if he had a good opportunity to make him a prisoner. The Nuwab's chief spy got intimation of this, and went at one o'clock at night to his master, and put him on his guard, by informing him that his Commander-in-Chief was a traitor. Within twenty-four hours of that time the Armenian General, Gurghin Khan, one of the greatest men of the age, was a corpse.

29. After this Meer Kasim fled in haste to Patna. Monghyr fell into the hands of the English. He then perceived that he should have to quit Patna also, and in the end would have to abandon the country. There were no bounds (42) to his rage against the English. Accordingly, before leaving Patna, he determined upon the execution of all his English prisoners, and ordered his Military Officers to go to the prison and put them to death. The Officers replied they were not executioners (43) that they should kill them without fighting; but if

(42) ইয়ত্তা *Iyattā.* (Sanscrit) Fixed measure, or quantity, definiteness, so-muchness (ইয়ৎ So much, thus much, and তা Affix of "state, condition, &c.")

(43) জল্লাদ *Jallād* (Arabic جلاد *Jallād*) An executioner, (from جلد *Jild*, "the Skin," q. d. One who skins or flays.) The Sanscrit word ঘাতক is used in this sense.

he would put arms into their hands they were ready to fight them. The Nawab then gave these sanguinary orders to a European Officer named Shumroo. A. D. 1763.

30. This wicked wretch had been first a Sergeant (44) among the French, and afterwards entered the service of Meer Kasim. He accepted the duty of carrying out this infamous (45) transaction. Accompanied by some soldiers he proceeded to the prison, and, firing on these defenceless wretches, put them all to death, with the exception of Doctor Fullarton. Forty-eight English gentlemen and one hundred and fifty European soldiers were thus slain at Patna. After this Shumroo served under several Princes, and at last obtained the Chieftainship of Sirdhana. (46) Among the persons who were killed in this massacre there were three Members of Council, namely, Ellis, Hay, and Lushington. On the 6th of November 1763, Patna was taken by the English, and Meer Kasim fled for protection to the Soobadar of Oude.

31. Thus the war was concluded in nearly four months only. On the 22d of October of the next year,

(44) সার্জ্জন *Sārjjan*, Corruption of the English "Serjeant."

(45) জুগুপ্সিত *Jugupsita*. (Sanscrit.) Censured, blamed, reviled (Past. part: of গুপ্ "to censure," which Root, with this meaning, is inflected in the desiderative form.)

(46) সিরধানা *Shirdhānā*. A town in the province of Delhi: it was formerly the capital of the celebrated Begum Somroo, but at her death, in A. D. 1836, it lapsed to the English. It is 47 miles N. N. E. from Delhi. Hamilton, in his East India Gazetteer, spells it "Seerdhana," and states, "This is the capital of a small Principality, twenty miles long by twelve in breadth, which with the town was assigned by Nudjiff Khan to Somroo, and on his death, in 1776, was delivered over to the Begum Somroo, on condition of her keeping up a force of three Battalions of Infantry. Somroo's real name was Walter Reinhiard, born of obscure parents in the electorate of Treves, from whence he entered early into the French service, taking the name of Summer, which the Natives of Hindoostan pronounce Somroo, &c." (See this interesting article in Hamilton, as above.)

A. D. 1764. the General of the English defeated the whole army of the Soobadar of Oude at Buxar (47). The arrangement which was entered into with the Wuzeer (48) after the defeat has no connexion with the history of Bengal. Accordingly it will suffice to mention, that he first gave an asylum to Meer Kasim, and afterwards plundered him of all his wealth and drove him away. Subsequently to this period the Nuwab caused no further disturbance in Bengal.

32. Meer Jafir having a second time ascended the throne of Bengal, discovered it was impossible to discharge the sum of money which he had agreed to give to the English. He had then grown very old, and his disease had by degrees become firmly rooted (49). Accordingly, in the month of January of the year 1765, he died at Moorshedabad, at the age of seventy-four years.

33. It was now the privilege of the Emperor of Delhi to appoint his successor; but that Prince then possessed no authority: nay, he had not even the means of entering his own capital. Accordingly the English did just what they pleased. Meer Jafir had a son by Muni Begum, named Nujumooddowlah. The Members of Council, in consideration of the receipt of a large sum of money, appointed him Nuwab. The following new arrangement was entered into with him: the English took on them-

(47) বক্সার *Baksār.* A town and fortress in the province of Bahar, 58 miles E. N. E. from Benares. A celebrated victory was gained here in October 1764, by the British forces under Major (afterwards Sir Hector) Munro, over the united armies of Shooja-ood-dowlah and Cossim Khan (See Hamilton's East India Gazetteer.)

(48) উজীর *Ujīr,* (from Arabic وزير *Wazīr,*) A minister of state (answering to মন্ত্রী *Mantri* in Sanscrit,) the Nuwabs of Oude held this post, under the Emperor of Delhi, by inheritance.

(49) বদ্ধমূল *Baddha-mūl.* (Sanscrit): Firmly-rooted, or rather firm-rooted, (from বদ্ধ Bound, firm and মূল the Root: firm is the root of *which:* a compound word of the class *Bahuvrīhī.*)

selves the duty of guarding the country, and desired the Nuwab to appoint a Naib Nazim (50) to manage the civil (51) and criminal (52) departments of the Government. A. D. 1765.

34. On this the Nuwab earnestly solicited, that Nund Coomar should be appointed to that office; but the Members distinctly refused this: and moreover Mr. Vansittart, in order to put future Governors on their guard, noted at length, in the records of the Council, the evil deeds of the wicked Nund Coomar. A Moosulman named Reza Khan, a relation of Ali Vardi Khan, was appointed to the office.

(50) নায়েব নাজিম *Nāyeb-nājim*, (from Arabic ونائب ناظم *Naib-nāzim*) A Deputy Governor.

(51) দেওয়ানী *Dewānī*, (from Persian ديواني *Dīwāni*) Relating to the Secretary, Civil (in judicature) in contradiction to "Criminal."

(52) ফৌজদারী *Phaojdārī*, (from Arabic and Persian فوجداري *Faojdāri*) Relating to the Police, Criminal (in Judicial affairs) as distinguished from "Civil."

CHAPTER XV.

A. D. 1765.

1. The Court of Directors, on hearing of all the irregularities (1), which had arisen from the bad conduct of their Indian officers, and of the hostilities with Meer Kasim and the Wuzeer, and the massacre at Patna, became extremely alarmed. They began to fear lest the country, which had been so recently acquired, should pass out of their grasp, and they concluded that besides the individual, who by his wisdom and boldness had acquired the country, no other could now be capable of preserving it. They therefore urgently requested Clive, who had at that time been favored by the King with the title of "Lord," again to come out to India, in order to restore the almost ruined affairs of that country.

2. When he had arrived in England, the Directors had not rewarded him according to his deserts; but, on the contrary, had taken away his Jagir from him: still, at their urgent solicitation, he agreed to proceed again to India. The Directors gave him full powers for carrying on the affairs, and invested him with the offices of Governor and Commander-in-Chief of Bengal. They also gave him instructions, that, since so many disagreeable occurrences had arisen from the private trade of the Indian officers, he should certainly put a stop to this trade. During the preceding eight years their officers had, at short intervals, (2) placed several Nuwabs on the throne, and had, in consequence, received more than two

(1) বিশৃঙ্খল *Bishrinkhal.* (Sanscrit.) Disorder, confusion, irregularity: বি affix of "privation," &c. and শৃঙ্খলা a Chain, order, arrangement.

(2) উপর্য্যুপরি *Uparjyupari.* (Sanscrit.) One upon another, one after another.

Crores of Rupees, as presents (3) from the Natives; they therefore resolved that this sort of presents must be discontinued. They also ordered that each of the officers, civil as well as military, should sign a covenant, promising that if he received a present of more than four thousand Rupees, he would pay it into (4) the Government Treasury, and that he should not be authorized to accept a present (5) of more than one thousand Rupees without the permission of the Governor. A. D. 1765.

3. The Directors sent out Lord Clive to India, with these instructions. On his arrival at Calcutta, (6) on the 3d of May 1765, he found that the calamities, at the apprehension of which the Court of Directors had been so much agitated, had passed by (7); but that the Government had arrived at the last stage of confusion. Not to mention others, (8) the very Members of Council were not consulting the interests of the Company. The sole object of all the officers was this, to amass wealth, by any means whatsoever, and to return with all speed to England. The most complete absence of justice prevailed in all matters, and such a system of tyranny began to be exercised towards the Natives, that the hearing of

(3) উপঢৌকন *Upadhaokan,* (Sanscrit) A respectful offering or present, a *Nuzur,* (উপ a prefix of "nearness," &c. and ঢৌকন "Seeking.")

(4) জমা *Jamā,* (from Arabic جمع *Jama*) A congregation, collection, accumulation.

(5) উপহার *Upahār* (Sanscrit) A complimentary gift, a present to a superior, &c. tribute. (উপ prefix before হৃ to convey, affix ঘঞ্.)

(6) Literally—"Having crossed over to Calcutta" (উত্তীর্ণ from উৎ over and তীর্ণ Crossed; past part: of তৃ to pass over or across.)

(7) অতিক্রান্ত *Atikrānta,* (Sanscrit). Passed the proper bounds, passed, in time (অতি Over, beyond, exceeding; and ক্রান্ত past part: of ক্রম "to go.")

(8) Literally—"Let the mention of any other remain afar off."

A. D. 1765. the very name of Englishman was a source of disgust to them. Not a particle of honor or virtue remained in the Government.

4. The former year the Court of Directors had strictly ordered, that their officers should no longer take presents in any shape. When this order arrived the old Nuwab, Meer Jafir, was on his death-bed. The Members of Council did not enter it on their records: on the contrary, after Meer Jafir's death, when they made another person Nuwab, they took large presents from him. In the same letter the Directors gave these instructions, that their servants must give up private trade; but, disregarding this distinct order, the Members of Council made an arrangement with the new Nuwab, that the English should be allowed to trade, as formerly, free of duty.

5. Clive wished, immediately after his arrival, to put in force all the orders of the Directors. The Members of Council began to oppose him, as they had done Mr. Vansittart. But Clive was made of other materials: he insisted that each individual should sign an agreement, that he would no more take presents; and he forthwith dismissed from the service those who refused. On seeing this, some signed, and those who had collected sufficient (9) wealth went home; but all, without exception, became his enemies.

6. Clive resolved, that, since the whole of the revenues were being swallowed up (10) by war charges, it was absolutely necessary to make peace, and accordingly, on the 24th of June, departed from Calcutta, for the Western Provinces. (11) It was stipulated with Nujumooddowlah,

(9) অপর্য্যাপ্ত *Aparjyāpta,* (Sanscrit,) Abundant, overflowing.

(10) পর্য্যবসিত *Parjyabasita,* (Sanscrit.) Finished, completed, concluded.

(11) অঞ্চল *Anchal,* (Sanscrit.) The end or border of a cloth, veil, shawl, &c. a border, a part of a town or country.

that the English should manage the whole Government, and that he should receive annually a total sum of fifty lakhs of rupees for his expenses, and that he must expend this money according to the advice of Reza Khan, Rajah Doorlubh Ram and Jugut Seth. Soon after this, a treaty was also made with the Nuwab of Oude. A. D. 1765.

7. Of all the affairs which were settled in this journey, the procuring of the Dewany of the three provinces from the King of Delhi, in the name of the Company, was the most important. We have before mentioned that he had agreed to bestow the said Dewany upon the English, whenever they should ask for it. Clive accordingly, when he had an interview with him at Allahabad, solicited him to fulfil this promise, and he also immediately assented. On the 12th of August, the Emperor conferred on the Company the Dewany of Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa, and Clive agreed that out of the proceeds of the revenues they would pay monthly to the Emperor, the sum of two Lakhs of Rupees.

8. It appears proper to mention, in this place, that the Emperor was at that time a fugitive in his own dominions, and was consequently destitute of the Regal Paraphernalia (12) &c. For this reason a throne was prepared, by putting together two of the dining tables of the English, and covering them with embroidered cloth (13). The Emperor being seated upon this, handed over to the English three crores (14) of subjects, along with two crores of rupees (15) of annual revenue. The Moosul-

(12) পরিচ্ছদ *Parichchad,* (Sanscrit.) Courts, train, dependants, dress, paraphernalia (পরি "Round," and ছদ "to cover," affix অল্.)

(13) কার্ম্মিক বস্ত্র (Sanscrit.) Worked cloth.

(14) Three Crores are equal to thirty Millions.

(15) Two Crores of Rupees are equal, at the rate of two Shillings to the Rupee, to two Millions of Pounds.

A. D. 1765. man Historian has insinuated regarding this affair, that at any other time the deputation of numerous sagacious (16) ministers and skilful ambassadors, and a vast deal of discussion would have been requisite to the carrying out of so highly important a transaction; but now it was finished in so short a time, as would not have sufficed for the sale of a herd of cattle, or an ass.

9. Of all the propitious circumstances which had occurred in favor of the English, after the battle of Plassey, this affair was the most important. The English had by that battle become the real masters of this country; but the Natives up to this time looked on them only as conquerors. Now, through this gift of the Emperor, the people considered them, as the proper owners of the three Provinces. From that period the Nuwab of Moorshedabad became a mere useless appendage (17). Clive returned to Calcutta, on the 7th of September.

10. The private trade which the Company's officers carried on was the source of endless oppression. The Directors had therefore repeatedly ordered that it should be stopped; but their officers had up to this period evaded (18) all those instructions. There was some indistinctness in their last orders, and Clive also considered that the salaries of Civil Servants were very small, and of course they were driven to make them out (19) by improper means. Instead therefore of at once putting a

(16) নীতিজ্ঞ *Nitignya.* Knowing what is right (especially in Government) sagacious, politic, নীতি Guidance, direction, political science, and জ্ঞ who knows.)

(17) সাক্ষিগোপাল *Shākhyi Gopāl.* Powerless, useless—(alluding to an image of Gopal or Krishna near Cuttack, of which a legend is given in the "Chaitanya Charitamrita," or, History of the modern Bengalee Incarnation, *Chaitanya.*)

(18) গোলমাল *Golmāl* (Bengalee.) Confusion, disorder.

(19) পোষান (Bengalee.) To cherish, to fatten.

stop to their trade, he resolved to allow it to go on under a proper system. A. D. 1765.

11. He accordingly appointed a Committee to carry on the trade in these three articles, namely, Salt, Betel-nuts and Tobacco. It was arranged that they should pay thirty-five *per Cent.* into the Company's Treasury as duty, and whatever profit should accrue, should be divided among all the officers, Civil and Military; that the Members of Council should receive a larger share; and that the officers inferior to them, should receive at a comparatively smaller rate.

12. When he reported to the Directors this arrangement, he urged them to increase the salary of the Governor, in order that he might be freed from all necessity of being in any way concerned in this trade; but they did not adopt this good advice for fifteen years after this period. As soon as they heard of the appointment of this new Committee, they expressed their dissent in exceedingly harsh language. They severely reproved Clive for having appointed this Committee, and ordered that it should be dissolved, and that no servant of the Government should be mixed up with (20) the trade of Bengal.

13. Up to this time the whole of the Company's revenue used to be consumed solely by the charges of Government. The Company had nominally a large income; but they were always in debt. All the officers, both European and Native, did nothing but plunder without the least feeling of mercy. Clive was asked in England how it came to pass, seeing the Company's revenue to be so considerable, that there should constantly be a deficiency. He replied that if a person was once allowed to make a bill (21) against the Company, he would make a fortune out of it.

(20) লিপ্ত *Lipta*, (Sanscrit). Smeared, annointed, embraced, connected with, defiled or contaminated by.

(21) বিল *Bil*, from English "Bill."

A. D. 1765.

14. But the great source of expenditure was the largeness of the army. As long as the troops served in the cause of the Nuwab, he used to give Bhātā (22) for that period. This was styled "Double Batta." They had so long received this large remuneration, that at last they used to look upon it as their right. Clive saw, that unless he could reduce the expense (23) of the army, there would never be any surplus revenue. He knew, that whatever system he should adopt for decreasing the expenditure would give rise to objections; but he was a man of determined resolution (24) and he accordingly at once issued an order, intimating that Double Batta had been abolished from that date.

15. At this the military officers were extremely dissatisfied, and affirmed that as the country had been conquered by the force of their arms, it was above all things becoming that theirs should be the advantage therefrom. But Clive's mind was not to be moved: he was ready to yield something to them; but he had also determined that it was absolutely necessary to reduce the expense of the army. The officers conspired together to make Clive act according to their wishes. After secret consultation they resolved that they would all resign their commissions on the same day.

16. When the officers of the first brigade resigned in this manner, Clive, on receiving the news, was greatly concerned, and began to be apprehensive lest this conspiracy (25) should have extended through the whole army.

(22) ভাতা *Bhātā.* (Hindee,) An extra allowance to Troops on service.

(23) খরচ *Kharach,* (from Oordoo خرچ *Kharch,* Corruption of Arabic خرج *Kharj,*) Expenditure, expense, price.

(24) দৃঢ়প্রতিজ্ঞ *Drirhapratignya,* (Sanscrit) Punctual, firm to a promise, determined in a resolution (a compound word of the class *Bahuvrihi,* from দৃঢ় (fem.) hard, firm, প্রতিজ্ঞা the promise, agreement, engagement, *of whom.*)

(25) ষড়যন্ত্র (Sanscrit.) Machination, conspiracy (ষষ্ six, and যন্ত্র machine.)

He had been in many difficulties, but had never been entangled (26) in such a straight as this: just at the time when the Mahrattas were preparing to again invade Bengal, the English army became destitute of officers. But Clive did not despond even at this, and began to act with his natural courage. He ordered officers to be brought from Madras. Those Bengal Officers who had not openly revolted gave in. Clive dismissed the chief mutineers and sent them off to England. By means of such severity he brought the troops again under subjection, and in this way also saved the Government from so serious and unprecedented (27) a calamity. A. D. 1765.

17. In the course of twenty months from his arrival in India, Lord Clive had established order in the affairs of the Company, and diminished the expenditure; by obtaining the Dewany of the three Provinces, had increased the revenue, and fixed the annual income at nearly two Crores of Rupees, and, having quelled a most dangerous mutiny which broke out, had established an excellent system in the Army. By these intense labours he suffered so much in body, (28) that he was compelled to depart to his own country. Accordingly, in February 1767, that is to say ten years from his first arrival in Bengal, he embarked on board a ship. A. D. 1767.

18. It may be said that in these ten years, he established the English Empire in India. On account of his reforming the abuses of the Government, many became his enemies. Many of these returned to England with immense fortunes, and acquired great power in the India House. On Clive's arrival in England, they began to

(26) ঠেকন *Thekhan,* (Bengalee) To touch, knock, be obstructed or stopped.

(27) অননুভূতপূর্ব্ব *Ananubhūtapūrbba,* (Sanscrit.) Not experienced before.

(28) Literally.—"He was so much afflicted bodily." শারীরিক seeming to be here used adverbially.

A. D. 1767. bring charges against him with much rancour, both in Parliament and in the Court of Directors. Men of all parties in the Government displayed much ingratitude towards him. The man who had established this vast empire was obliged to expire under the wounds of the poisoned tooth of the malice of his enemies. He quitted life in an unworthy manner, on the 22d of November, A. D. 1774.

19. The English had now indeed obtained the Dewany; that is to say, the Emperor had bestowed on them the revenues of Bengal, Behar, and Orissa; but they were totally ignorant of the method of transacting revenue business. All the European Officers in the service (29) of the Company had, up to this period, been employed solely in carrying on either the trade of the Government (30) or their own private dealings, and they knew nothing about the collection of the land tax.

20. Preceding Soobadars, finding the Hindoos very patient and clever at accounts, had entrusted the whole of this duty to their hands. The English were, in the first place, ignorant of all the affairs of this conquered country, and, in the next place, the Native Officers withheld from them all knowledge of those affairs. They were, of course, obliged to carry on all business according to established custom. Rajah Shitab Roy being appointed to the office of Dewan of Behar, took up his abode at Patna. Mahommed Reza Khan being made Dewan of Bengal, remained at Moorshedabad. The Government was carried on in this way for nearly seven years. After that, in the year 1772, the English began to carry on all the business themselves.

(29) তরফ *Taraph*, (from Arabic طرف *Taraf* or *Tarf*) Side margin, quarter, (here used as a postposition and meaning) on the side of, on the part of.

(30) সরকারী *Sarkāri*, Or belonging to the Sirkar, or Government (from Persian سرکار *Sarkār*, the King's Court, Government.)

A. D. 1767.

21. During these years there was no rule nor order in the Government of the country. The Zemindars and Ryats were quite at a loss whom they should respect as their masters: for although the duty of conducting all gubernatorial affairs was in the hands of the Nuwab and his ministers, yet the English had become so powerful in all parts of this country, that the native officers were unable to control them; and, according to act of Parliament, even the Governor of Calcutta had not the power to punish any one who committed a crime beyond the Mahratta Ditch. In fact, for the period of seven years after the English obtained the Dewany, the trouble and confusion which reigned throughout the whole country are beyond calculation.

22. In consequence of the existence of such disorders for several years in the Government, the Dacoits (31) had grown very bold. Every Zillah was so full of bands of robbers that no man of wealth was safe. In fine, Dacoitee had gradually increased to such an extent, that in the year 1772, when the Company took the weight of governing on their own shoulders, it had become necessary to issue the most stringent regulations for the purpose of putting it down. They gave orders that every Dacoit should be conveyed to his own village and there hanged; that his family should be slaves of the state in perpetuity, and that all the people of that village should be fined according to their means.

23. It was during this period of misrule that a great portion of the land became rent-free. The Emperor had indeed given the whole revenue of Bengal to the English, but instead of being realized in Calcutta, it used to be collected at Moorshedabad, and the Revenue Court (32)

(31) ডাকাইত *Dākāit* (in Hindee डकैत *Dakait*) A Robber, pirate.

(32) কাছারী *Kāchhārī* (Hindee कचहरी *Kachahrī*) A hall or court of justice: town-hall, court, office.

A. D. 1767. was also at the latter place. Mahommed Reza Khan, Rajah Doorlubh Ram, and Rajah Kanto Singh, brother of the famous Gungagovind Singh, these three persons carried on the whole of the revenue business of Bengal. They alone used to make all the settlements, and to send the revenue which they collected to Calcutta. At that time the Zemindars were merely head revenue collectors: these, with the connivance (33) of the three great men before mentioned, gave away to Brahmins, before the eyes of the English were opened, nearly forty lakhs of bigahs (34) of Government land, free of rent, and occasioned an annual loss to the state of about thirty or forty lakhs of Rupees. On account of this robbery on the part of the landholders, and dishonesty of the revenue (35) officers stationed at Moorshedabad, the Honorable Company, in spite of their annual revenue of two crores of Rupees, were always poor and in debt.

24. After the departure of Lord Clive, Mr. Verelst became Governor of Bengal, in the year 1767. The next year the Directors sent positive (36) orders for abolishing the trade of Government officers in salt and other articles. They had already decreed that natives alone should carry on the country trade, and that no European should be concerned therein; but the pay of European Officers was very small: they therefore likewise directed that a sum should be allowed them from the Government Treasury in excess of their pay, at the rate of two and a half per cent. and that this sum should be shared in a

(33) Literally.—"On the strength of the voluntary inattention."

(34) বিঘা *Bighā*, (Hindee বীঘা *Bighā* Sanscrit বিগ্রহ *Vigraha*) A measure of land containing twenty kathas, or 120 feet square.

(35) মাল *Māl*, (Arabic مال *Māl*) Property, wealth, merchandise, goods, effects, (here applied especially to the wealth of the state, the revenue.)

(36) চূড়ান্ত *Chūrānta*. (Sanscrit) Conclusion, decision (চূড় A crest, pinnacle, and অন্ত end)

rateable proportion by all the Officers, Civil and Military. A. D. 1767.

25. But after the departure of Clive, the Company's affairs began again to get into disorder. It is true the income in India was great, but the expenditure began to be far greater. There was now daily a sad (37) deficiency (38) in the treasury. The Governor of Calcutta, in October of the year 1769, having balanced the accounts, found that much debt had been incurred, and that matters could not go on without contracting further obligations. At that time the following was the mode of collecting money: whatever sums the European Officers saved, the Governor used to receive them into the Calcutta Treasury, and send drafts (39) for the amount on the Court of Directors in London. The Directors had no means of meeting these drafts (40) except selling the merchandise which used to be sent from India. But as the Governor of Calcutta and the Members of Council began to contract large debts, and at the same time to transmit less goods than usual, of course the Directors were unable to meet those bills: consequently they sent instructions that the Governor of Calcutta should not again send bills of this kind, but should for one year borrow money in Calcutta itself.

26. The result of this was, that the Goverment Officers began to remit to Europe the money they had saved through the French, Dutch, and Danes: that is to say, they deposited their money in the Treasuries at Chandernagore, Chinsurah and Serampore, and took bills in the

(37) বিষম *Bisham.* (Sanscrit.) Uneven, unparalleled, painful, excessive.

(38) অনাটন *Anātan.* (Bengalee) The not sufficing for any purpose.

(39) বরাৎ *Barāt* (from Arabic برات *Barāt*)Commission,assignment, warrant, reference, draft.

(40) হুণ্ডী *Hundī* (Hindee हुंडी) a Bill of Exchange.

A. D. 1769. name of other European Companies. These merchants(41) purchased with the money merchandise, &c. which they sent to Europe, and which used to arrive there and be disposed of within the period the bills had to run. By this arrangement, the other European merchants residing in India experienced no inconvenience from want of funds; whereas the English Company were in the greatest distress. Notwithstanding the prohibition of the Directors, the Government of Calcutta had, through necessity, again contracted debts as before, and had, in the year 1769, sent bills to England; in consequence of which, there appeared every probability that the Company's affairs in London would be altogether ruined.

27. In the month of January, of the year 1765, Nujumooddowlah had become Nazim, in the room of Jafir Khan. On his decease, the following year, Syfooddowlah was established on the throne. Upon his demise

A. D. 1770. from small pox (42) in the year 1770, his brother, Moobarukooddowlah, succeeded to the dignity. The Members of Council began to give him the same sum for his expenses as his predecessors used to receive, but the Directors sent instructions that they should reduce the annual allowance, and give him sixteen lakhs of Rupees.

28. In the year 1770 a most grievous famine (43) occurred, by which the country was almost depopulated. That year will be for ever memorable in the annals of

(41) সওদাগর *Saodāgar*, (from Persian سوداگر *Saodāgar*) A merchant, trader.

(42) বসন্তরোগ *Basantarog*, (Sanscrit.) The vernal disease, the small pox (বসন্ত the season of Spring, including the months Chaitra and Bysakh, or from the middle of March to the middle of May: and রোগ disease,)

(43) দুর্ভিক্ষ *Durbhikhya*, (Sanscrit.) Dearth, famine, (দুর্ a prefix implying "difficulty, prohibition" and ভিক্ষা "alms": when charity ceases.)

Bengal for this calamity. It is impossible to describe to what extent the poor underwent intolerable misery at that period, but our readers will be able in some degree to comprehend it by our stating thus much, that in consequence of that famine, nearly one-third of the inhabitants of the country fell into the jaws (44) of death. In that year the Directors ordered that a Council of Revenue, composed of Civil Servants, should be established at Moorshedabad and Patna. The duty appointed for them was, that they should enquire into revenue matters, and examine the receipts; (45) but the settlement of the revenue still remained in the hands of Natives. Mahommed Reza Khan and Rajah Shitab Roy, remaining at Moorshedabad and Patna respectively, began to carry on the business as usual, and only their seals (46) were affixed to all papers (47) connected with land. A. D. 1770.

29. On the resignation of the Honorable Mr. Verelst, in the year 1769, Mr. Cartier obtained the post of Governor: but, on account of the incompetency of the Government of Calcutta, the affairs of the Company had become greatly disordered, and almost ruined. Consequently, the Directors sent out to India the following three persons, for the purpose of reforming all abuses, and reducing the expenditure: viz., the former Governor of Calcutta Mr. Vansittart, Mr. Scrafton, and Col. Ford. But they did not reach their destination: the ship in which they embarked was never heard of, after passing the Cape; and it was universally supposed, that the vessel must have gone down with all on board.

(44) গ্রাস *Grās* (Sanscrit.) A mouthful, the act of swallowing.

(45) দাখিলা *Dākhilā*. A receipt for money, &c.

(46) শীলমোহর *Shil-mohar*. The word "Seal" with its synonyme in Persian, affixed.

(47) কাগজপত্র *Kāgaj-patra*. (Persian كاغذ *Kāghaz*. Paper, and Sanscrit, পত্র A document) A written document, a deed, a voucher.

CHAPTER XVI.

A. D. 1772.

1. When Mr. Cartier quitted the post of Governor, in the year 1772, Mr. Warren Hastings succeeded to that Office. Amongst all those who have up to this day, come out to India in the East India Company's service, he stands pre-eminent. He came out to this country in the Civil Service in the year 1749, at the age of 18 years, and commenced studying the language and politics of the country with the greatest application. In the year 1757, Clive appointed him, though only 26 years of age, to the situation of resident at the Court of Moorshedabad. This was at that time a very high post; no office was more honorable, except that of Governor. When Mr. Vansittart obtained the chief dignity at Calcutta, Mr. Hastings alone possessed his confidence.

2. In December of the year 1761, Hastings became a Member of the Council of Calcutta. At that period all the other Members were opposed to Mr. Vansittart: he alone sided with him. At the time when all the officers were guilty of mal-practices, he alone was faultless. All the other Members of Council were in the habit of making money by deposing one Nawab and setting up another (1) in his place, but no one could ever suspect him of taking any thing. In fact he was so poor, that when he went to Europe (2) with his friend Mr. Vansittart, in the year 1765, he wished to borrow a very small sum of money from his banker (3) Khojah Petros, but

(1) Literally—"Anointing or consecrating another."

(2) বিলাত *Bilāt* (from Arabic ولايت *Wilāyat)* An inhabited country, dominion, district, a foreign country. This word is usually restricted to Europe, and often to England.

(3)মহাজন *Mahājan,* A banker, money dealer, merchant, (মহা great, illustrious, and জন person.)

was refused by him, and obliged to borrow in another quarter. A. D. 1772.

3. In the year 1770, the Directors appointed him to the post of second Member of the Council of Madras. He there established such excellent regulations, that the Directors were highly pleased with him. Afterwards, when the Office of Governor of Calcutta became vacant, they, considering Hastings as most qualified, appointed him to the dignity: at that time he was forty years of age.

4. The Directors were highly displeased that Natives should make all the settlements of the revenue. They perceived that the receipts were gradually becoming less; accordingly, seven years after obtaining the Dewany, they determined to be the real Dewan; that is to say, to take into their own hands the duty of making the settlement of the revenue, and to collect it by the instrumentality of European Officers. Hastings had to carry this new measure into effect immediately on his arrival. He assumed the Office of Governor on the 13th of April. On the 14th of May it was proclaimed, with the consent of the Council, that they would themselves conduct the revenue affairs; that the European Officers who should manage the revenue should be styled Collectors; that for a certain period the whole of the land should be given in farm; (4) and that four Members of Council, formed into a committee, should visit all the districts, and make the settlements. The committee first proceeded to Kishnaghur (5) and commenced business; but on the former

(4) ইজারা *Ijārā*, (Arabic اجارة *Ijāra)* 1. Hire, rent, a privilege or income of variable amount, sold or let for a fixed sum. 2. A farm.

(5) কৃষ্ণনগর *Krishnanagar*, (Sanscrit. The city of Krishna. Name of a town in the province of Bengal, district of Nuddea, to which it occasionally communicates its name, being the residence of the Judge, Collector, and civil establishment. It stands on the south-eastern side of the Jellinghy branch of the Ganges, sixty-two miles N. by E. from Calcutta.—See Hamilton).

A. D. 1772. propietors wishing to pay the revenue (6) at a very low rate (7) they began to put up all the land to auction (8). Any Zemindar or Talukdar (9) who agreed to give a reasonable rent, resumed possession of his district, as usual; and any who wished to pay very little was dismissed with a pension, and another person appointed in his room. In order that the Governor might see into every thing, with his own eyes, the Khalsa, (10) that is, the revenue office, was brought from Moorshedabad to Calcutta.

5. On this change of the regulations affecting revenue matters, it became necessary to alter those also which related to Civil and Criminal affairs. Two courts of judicature (11) were established in each district. In the Criminal Court (12) the Collector, the Kazee (13)

(6) মালগুজারী *Mālgujārī,* (Persian مالگذاري *Malguzārī)* Rent paid in money, the paying of rent or taxes (the first meaning answers to কর or রাজস্ব, and the last to করদান or রাজস্বদান.)

(7) নিরিখ *Nirikh,* (Persian نرخ *Nirkh)* Price fixed by the officers of Police, price current, tariff, assize.

(8) নীলাম *Nilām,* (Portuguese "Leilam") Auction নীলামডাকন to put up (a thing) to auction.

(9) তালুকদার *Tālukdār,* (Arabic تعلقدار *Taalluqdār.*) The holder of a *Taluk* or manor, lordship, estate.

(10) খালসা *Khālsā,* (Arabic خالصه *Khālisa*) 1. Pure. 2. An Office of Government in which the business of the Revenue Department is transacted; exchequer. 3. Land held immediately from government.

(11) বিচারালয় *Bichārālay,* (Sanscrit.) A court of justice (বিচার the exercise of judgment on a present object, investigation, consideration, and আলয় a dwelling, a receptacle.)

(12) আদালত *Ādālat,* (Arabic عدالت *Adālat*) 1. A court of justice, assize. 2. Justice, law, equity.

(13) কাজী *Kājī,* (Arabic قاضي *Qāzī*) A judge, justice (part. act. of قضى *Qazā,* to decree, determine.)

and the Mooftee (14) sat in judgment together. The Collector heard cases (15) also in the Civil Court, with the aid of the Dewan and other officers (16). For the purpose of receiving Appeals, (17) in suits, two Courts were established in Calcutta: that in which Civil Cases were adjudged was styled "the Sudder Dewany Adawlut;" (18) and that in which Criminal Cases were heard, "the Sudder Nizamut Adawlut." (19) A. D. 1772.

6. Up to this period the Judge (20) used to take the

(14) মুফ্‌তী *Muphtī*, (Arabic مفتي *Muftī*) A superior officer among Mahomedans, whose decrees are regarded as law, (part. act. of فتو *Fatu* "to decree, judge, award.")

(15) মোকদ্দমা *Mokaddamā*, (Arabic مقدمه *Muqaddama*) A cause (in law) subject, affair, matter, thesis (part. pass. of قدم *Qadama*, "to go before.")

(16) আমলা *Āmlā*, (Arabic عمله *Amalah* pl. of عامل *Āmil*) Operators, executors, collectors of revenue, governors. Officers of justice. (It is commonly used as singular, meaning "An inferior officer," and has the plural signs affixed as here.)

(17) আপীল *Āpil*, (English "Appeal") This is expressed in Oordoo by رجوع *Rujūā*, Reference.

(18) সদর দেওয়ানী আদালত *Sadar Dewānī Ādālat*, (Arabic Persian Arabic صدر ديواني عدالت *Sadar Dīwānī Ādālat*) The chief Civil Court صدر The breast, the foremost or highest part of any thing, the first place or seat in an assembly, chief, supreme, ديواني belonging or relating to the Dewan, the minister or Secretary, Civil (in law); and عدالت a Court of Justice.)

(19) সদর নিজামত আদালত *Sadar Nijāmat Ādālat*, (Arabic صدر نظامت عدالت *Sadr Nizāmat Adālat*) The Chief or Supreme Criminal Court, صدر as above, نظامت 1. Arrangement, Government. 2. The administration of criminal justice, عدالت as above.)

(20) জজ *Jaj*, (English "Judge.") This is expressed in Sanscrit by বিচারকর্ত্তা *Vichārakarttā*; in Oordoo by منصف *Munsif*.

A. D. 1772.

chouth (21) or fourth part of the amount in dispute in each case brought forward: this was abolished. Large fines (22) were abolished: and the power possessed by creditors of confining debtors (23) was put a stop to. The adjudgement of civil causes for a less amount than ten rupees was entrusted to the Chief Zemindar of the Purgunnah. (24) The English, with a view to govern Bengal according to their own system, at first established the above regulations.

7. The Directors had come to the opinion, that the deficiency in the revenue of Bengal was entirely owing to the dishonest (25) conduct of Mahommed Reza Khan. They had suspicions of his proceedings from the day of his appointment to his office, and they also did not forget, that when he was employed in the Chaklah (26) of Dacca, during the rule of Meer Jafir Ally, there then occured a deficiency in the treasury (27) to the amount of ten lakhs of rupees. Some also brought this accusation

(21) চোথ *Chaoth*, Hindee (Sanscrit. চতুর্থ) The fourth part: hence tribute (collected by the Mahrattas.)

(22) জরীমানা *Jarimānā* (Arabic Persian جرمانه *Jarimānah* properly *Jurmānah* from Arabic جرم *Jurm*, a crime, fault,) A penalty, forfeit, fine—(The Sanscrit word দণ্ড *Danda* expresses this meaning.)

(23) খাতক *Khātak*. (Sanscrit খাদক) A borrower, a debtor.

(24) পরগনা *Parganā*, (Persian پرگنه *Parganah*) An inferior division of a country (less than a zillah) nearly equal to a barony.

(25) অসৎ *Asat*, (Sanscrit.) Non-existent, untrue, unreal. Bad, vile, (অ Privative prefix, and সৎ present part. of অস "to be." "Being, existing. True, good. Right, proper.")

(26) চাকলা *Chāklā*, (Hindee চকলা *Chaklā*, Sanscrit. চক্র *Chakra*) A division of a country containing several parganas.

(27) তহবিল ঘাটি *Tahbīl ghāti*, (Arabic تحويل *Tahwāl* Trusts, charges, cash, and Hindee ঘাট *ghāt* Deficiency, abatement, reduction, from ঘটনা *ghatnā*, to abate, decrease)

against him, (28) that during the cruel famine of 1770, he monopolized (29) the whole of the grain for his own profit. He was universally suspected of having embezzled much public money, and greatly oppressed the people. A. D. 1772.

8. Whilst he held his employment at Moorshedahad, he was without a rival (30) in Bengal. He was Deputy-Soobadar, consequently the duty of the entire settlement of the revenue was in his hands; and he was also Deputy Nazim, and of course he had likewise the whole responsibility of the Police. (31) The Directors could see, that as long as such powers remained in his hands no person whatever could come forward to give information against him. They accordingly sent instructions, that Mahommed Reza Khan should be apprehended, with his family, and brought to Calcutta, and that all his papers should be seized. (32)

9. Mr. Hastings had entered on the duties only ten days when the above order reached him late at night. On the morning of the next day he wrote a letter to Mr. Middleton, the Resident of Moorshedabad, to send Mahommed Reza Khan to Calcutta. The latter was accordingly sent off to Calcutta, by water, together with his family, and Mr. Middleton took charge of his duties. When he arrived at Chitpore, one of the Members of the Council was despatched to have an interview with him, and explain the grounds of this proceeding; and Mr. Hastings also

(28) Literally—"in his name."

(29) একচাটিয়া *Ekchātiyā*, (pronounced Ekchetiye,) Monopoly.

(30) অদ্বিতীয় *Adwitīya* (Sanscrit.) Without a second, alone, unrivalled, peerless.

(31) পুলিস *Pulis*, Corruption of English "Police." In Oordoo the word فوجداري *Faojdari* is used in this sense.

(32) আটক *Atak*, (Hindee) Prevention, stop, bar, obstacle; name of a river.

A. D. 1772. wrote him a letter to the following purport, " I am under the orders of the Court of Directors; I have, therefore, been obliged to obey their orders; but my friendship with you shall in no degree be reversed."

10. Similar suspicions had also arisen regarding the conduct of the Naib Dewan of Behar, Rajah Shitab Roy. Accordingly he likewise was brought to Calcutta. His trial was completed in a very few days, and no fault was found against him. He was, therefore, dismissed (33) with honor. The Mahommedan Historian praises his management of the Government affairs; but he also states, that, like other Natives risen to high rank, he also used to take large sums from the people subject to him by oppressive measures.

11. In order to make him amends for the disgrace which had been put upon him, by bringing him as a suspected criminal to Calcutta, it was thought proper to bestow on him some reward; consequently the Members of Council presented him with a dress of honor, and created him Rae Rayan of Behar. But he was altogether broken-hearted from the dishonor which had come upon him. Of all the Natives whom the English had hitherto employed they always showed to Rajah Shitab Roy the highest respect. He was so high spirited, (34) that the disgrace of being suspended from his office, brought down to Calcutta, and tried for a suspected crime, was quite intolerable to him, and on his return to Patna he died of this mental affliction. His son, Rajah Kulyan Singh, was immediately installed in his office. Rajah Shitab Roy was the original cause of the great reputation which the district of Patna has acquired for its

(33) বিদায় *Bidāe.* (Sanscrit.) Dismissal, permission to depart.

(34) তেজস্বী *Tejaswî,* (Sanscrit.) Splendid, powerful, ardent, spirited, energetic.

grapes. (35) Through his endeavours the cultivation of grapes and melons (36) was first adopted in that district. A. D. 1772.

12. The trial of Mahommed Khan had lasted a long time. His accuser (37) was the notoriously wicked Nundcoomar. There was no kind of wickedness in which this person was not a proficient. From this it was at first supposed that the crime of the accused would be proved; but, after a two years investigation, he was acquitted; but he was not restored to his former office.

13. On his dismissal from office, his duty in the Nizamut was divided into two parts. The charge of instructing the Nuwab was entrusted to Munee Begum, and Hastings appointed Gooroodas, the son of Nundcoomar, to inspect the whole of the expenditure. The majority of the Members of Council made many objections to this appointment, and observed that Gooroodas was quite a child, and that appointing him was appointing his father, whom, however, the English could never trust. Mr. Hastings did not indeed listen to their advice at that time; but in the end he received the due reward of this his undue display of favor towards the offspring of Nundcoomar.

14. At this period the business of the Company in England had become greatly confused and nearly ruined. The utter confusion which had occurred in India in the five years between the departure of Lord Clive in the year 1767, and the appointment of Hastings in the

(35) দ্রাক্ষা *Drākshā* (pronounced *Drākhyā*) (Sanscrit.) A grape, (Root দ্রাক্ষ to desire. Affix ঘঞ্)

(36) খরমুজ *Kharmuj*, (Persian خربوزه *Kharbūza*) A musk melon. *Cucumis melo* (also written খরবুজ *Kharbūj*.)

(37) দোষোদ্‌ঘাটক *Doshodghatak*, The lifter up, or opener, or exposer, of a crime, (দোষ a crime, or fault, and উদ্‌ঘাটক An opener, lifting, raising up, উত্ up: and ঘাটক from ঘট্ to strive.)

A. D. 1772. year 1772 was equalled by the bad state of the affairs of the Directors in England. At a time when the insolvency of the Company was impending, the Directors resolved to pay to the proprietors of stock (38) a dividend (39) on profits (40) at the rate of eleven and a half per cent. If their business had met with great success, it would have been by no means proper to assign such profits. At any rate, after committing such a foolish act, the Directors, on examining the Treasury, found there was not laid up (41) therein a single cowree. (42) They were consequently obliged to borrow of the Bank of England, at first forty lakhs, and then twenty lakhs of rupees. At last they had to go to the King's Minister, and ask him for a loan of a crore of rupees.

15. Up to this period Parliament (43) had never paid any attention to any matter connected with India, but on the appearance of such a bad state of the Company's affairs, they resolved to take the whole business into their own hands. A Committee (44) was appointed to enquire into all the misconduct that had taken place in the Company's Government, and on its

(38) মূলধন *Muldhan,* (Sanscrit.) Capital, principal. (মূল Root, origin, capital, and ধন wealth.)

(39) হিস্যা *Hisyā,* (from Arabic حصه *Hissa)* Share, part, division.

(40) মুনাফা *Munāphā,* (from Arabic منافع *Munāfia* plural of منفعت *Manfaat.*) Profit, advantage, gain.

(41) সম্বল *Sambal.* (Sanscrit.) Provender or stock for travelling expences (সম্ব " to go" affix অলচ্)

(42) কপর্দ্দক *Kaparddak.* (Sanscrit.) A small shell which passes as current coin throughout the East, *Cyprea Moneta,* a Cowrie (কড়ি *Kari.*)

(43) পার্লিয়ামেণ্ট *Pārliyāment,* from the English " Parliament."

(44) কমিটী *Kamitī,* from the English " Committee."

giving in its report, (45) the Ministers perceived that there was no expedient for saving the Company, without entirely changing the arrangements: they accordingly introduced into Parliament several proposals, with the view of correcting all abuses. The Directors made objections in this matter to the utmost of their power; but their ill conduct had obtained such notoriety, and all mankind were so much disgusted therewith, that the Parliament disregarded all their objections, and suported the plan brought forward by the King's Minister. A. D. 1772.

16. The whole system of the Indian Government, both in England and India, was now remodelled. The mode of choosing the Directors was also in some degree changed. By this the abuses which had arisen in the Company's affairs in England were materially corrected. It was also ruled that six of the Directors should be required annually to withdraw from their office, and that six others should be elected in their room. It was moreover ordered, that the Governor of Bengal should be the Governor General (46) of all India, and that the political affairs of the other Presidencies (47) should be under his control.

17. Disputes were always arising regarding the power of the Governor and Members of Council; it was therefore enacted that the Governor General should be sole Governor and Commander of Fort William. The Governor General, the Members of Council, and the Judges were prohibited from engaging in commerce, consequent-

(45) রিপোর্ট *Report,* from the English "Report;" which may be rendered by the Sanscrit বিজ্ঞাপনী

(46) "Governor General" may be rendered by the Sanscrit প্রধানাধিপতি *Pradhānādhipati,* whilst "Governor," is simple অধিপতি *Adhipati.*

(47) রাজধানী *Rājadhānī.* A royal residence, capital, metropolis, seat of Government.

A. D. 1772. ly the Governor's salary was fixed at two lakhs and a half, and that of each Member of Council at eighty thousand a year. It was also ordered that no person employed in the Company's or King's service was at liberty to receive presents. The Directors were instructed to lay before the King's ministers all documents connected with the Government of the country which should arrive from India.

18. The following rules were enacted on the subject of the administration of justice. That a principal place of judicature should be established in Calcutta, with the style of "the Supreme Court." That one Chief Justice, that is to say principal Judge, on an annual salary of eighty thousand rupees, and three Puisne Judges, that is to say subordinate Judges, on salaries of sixty thousand each, should there administer justice. That these Judges should not be subject to the Company, but be appointed by the King himself, and that in that Court the causes of British subjects should be decided according to British law. Finally it was enacted that this law, which was the first that Parliament had passed regarding the conducting of the affairs of India, should come into effect from the 1st of August of the year 1774.

19. On the adoption of the above plan, the Governor of Bengal became Governor General, and his authority extended over the whole of India. But we are compiling a compendium of the History of Bengal, and shall, therefore, confine ourselves principally to the mention of those events which occurred in this Government. For a knowledge of the victories which were achieved in several provinces of Hindoostan (48) under the authority of the

(48) হিন্দুস্থান *Hindusthān.* (Persian هندوستان *Hindustan*) India, particularly applied to the Upper Provinces, (هندو *Hindū.* 1. A Negro, a black Arabian, Indian or Ethiopian, 2. A Gentoo, and ستان *Stan,* a place).

Governor General, our readers must refer to the History of Hindoostan. A. D. 1774.

20. Mr. Hastings had displayed such ability in conducting the affairs of Bengal, that he was appointed the first Governor General. Notwithstanding his extraordinary talents and knowledge, the people of England were extremely ill-disposed towards him; and those persons who were utterly ignorant of the affairs of that period used to consider him a very wicked man. Four persons were associated with him as Members in the Supreme Council to deliberate on the affairs of Government. Among these Mr. Barwell had for a considerable period belonged to the Civil Service; but the other three persons, namely Colonel Monson, Sir John Clavering, and Mr. Francis, had never visited this country. These three gentlemen had arrived full of enmity towards Mr. Hastings, and only searched out faults in all his measures. He, immediately on hearing of their arrival at Madras, had written them a letter expressive of his good will. On their reaching Kedgeree, (49) he despatched the Chief Member of the Council to meet them, and an individual of the Governor General's private staff (50) was sent to welcome them, (51). When they disembarked at Calcutta, such honors were paid to them as had not been shown to even Lord Clive or Mr. Vansittart. On their arrival a salute of seventeen guns (52) was fired, and all the Members

(49) খাজরী *Khājarī.* Name of a village and bazaar in the Province of Bengal, situated at the mouth of the Hooghly river, which here expands to a breadth of almost nine miles across. An officer on the part of Government resides here, who makes daily reports of the Ships that arrive and sail, and a light house has been erected a few miles further down—(see Hamilton.) The Mahommedans call it *Khajūriyā,* probably from *Khajūr* (Sanscrit খর্জূর *Kharjūra*) a Date. The Bengalees also call it কলাগেছে *Kalāgechhe.*

(50) পারিষদ *Pārishad.* (Sanscrit.) A courtier.

(51) স্বাগত *Swāyata,* (Sanscrit.) Welcome, salutation.

(52) Literally—" seventeen (discharges of) saluting Guns took

A. D. 1774. of Council assembled to receive them; still they were not satisfied. (53)

21. They complained to the Directors that they had not received due honors; because the troops were not drawn out to receive them—the salute of cannon did not amount to the proper number—their reception had taken place in Hastings' own house instead of the Council-house, and the new Government, of which they had come out as Members, had not been proclaimed with sufficient pomp.

22. These three Members of Council arrived at Kedgeree on the 14th of October, but it took them five days more to reach Calcutta. On the 20th, the first meeting of the Council took place; but, in consequence of Mr. Barwell not having arrived, nothing more than the proclamation of the new Government was done that day, and all the rest of the business remained for consideration on the following Monday, the 24th(54) of the month. As the new Members were quite unacquainted with the affairs of India, Mr. Hastings, at the commencement of the meeting, placed before them a detailed statement of the condition in which the whole business of the Company was progressing. But at this very first sitting such dissension arose that the Government of India was thrown into the greatest confusion thereby for nearly seven years from that time. Mr. Barwell alone sided(55) with the Governor General, the other three Members

place" (*Salāmī*, adjective, from Arabic سلام *Salām*, a salutation, salute, and Turkish توپ *Top*, a Cannon.)

(53) তাঁহাদের মন উঠিল না *Tānhāder man uthila nā*. Literally "their minds did not rise."

(54) তারিখ *Tārikh*, (from Arabic تاريخ *Tārīkh*.) Date, era, day of a month, (expressed by the Sanscrit word দিবস)

(55) পক্ষ *Paksha*, (pronounced *Pakhya*) Sanscrit. A side, a wing, an alternative, a partizan, (Root পক্ষ্ to take a part or side, affix অচ্)

used always to vote in opposition to him on every subject, and as they had the majority, the Governor General became a mere looker on; in reality the whole of the power fell into their hands. They used to conduct every proceeding with a view only to bring Mr. Hastings into contempt; (56) consequently these proceedings were not according to the dictates of judgment, but were merely prompted by anger. A. D. 1774.

23. It is indeed a matter of much surprize, that the Government, notwithstanding the constant existence therein of such dissensions for the period of six years, from the introduction of the new system of the Parliament till the year 1780, was not altogether torn to pieces. Mr. Hastings had a few days before appointed Mr. Middleton Resident of the City of Lucknow. (57) The new Members now ordered him to quit that appointment, and rejecting the new arrangements which Mr. Hastings had made with the Nuwab, they sent up exhorbitant demands against him. Hastings urged upon them to stop in their course, and intimated that if such things took place, it would be notorious throughout the whole world that dissension existed in the Government: especially the Natives, who always looked upon the Governor as the head of the state, now seing him so powerless, might naturally conclude that a revolution was at hand. But the Members, enslaved by anger and malice, paid no attention to this. In fact, the whole of their proceedings of this nature, from first to last, only displayed their ignorance and littleness of mind.

(56) অপদস্থ *Apadastha,* (Sanscrit) Deprived of rank, dignity, or respect.

(57) লক্ষ্ণৌ *Lakhnao.* (Sanscrit লক্ষ্মণাবতী *Lakshmanāvatī*). Name of a city in the province and kingdom of Oude, of which it is the capital, situated on the South side of the Goomty river, which is navigable for boats at all seasons of the year, and falls into the Ganges between Benares and Ghazeepore.—(See Hamilton.)

A. D. 1774.

24. The Natives speedily became informed on the subject of this kind of dissension amongst the Council, and they were able to perceive, that Mr. Hastings, who had so long been Chief over all, now no longer possessed any authority. Consequently, all who were dissatisfied with any of his proceedings began to bring complaints against him to Francis and his associates; and the latter also commenced to receive the complaints of those persons with heartfelt zeal. (58) At that time the Ranee (59) of the deceased Tilakchandra, Chief of Burdwan, arrived in Calcutta, accompanied by her son. She was immediately induced to present a petition, to the effect, that after the Rajah's death she had given in bribes to the English and their Officers, the sum of nine lakhs of rupees, and that of this amount Mr. Hastings had taken fifteen thousand rupees. On this Hastings wished to see the accounts in Bengallee and Persian; but the Ranee would not exhibit any. Up to this period it had been the privilege of the person at the head of the Government to confer an honor upon any individual, but Hastings' opponents, disregarding him, gave, with their own hands, a dress of honor to the young Rajah.

25. They began to reward those who complained (60) against Hastings, and to bring spies (61) from all parts of Bengal. Immediately numerous accusations com-

(58) যত্ন *Jatna.* Endeavour, effort, energy.

(59) মহিষী *Mahishi.* (Sanscrit.) The wife of a king, but especially the one who has been crowned with him, a queen, (Root মহ্ to worship or be worshipped, and Unadi affix ঈষচ্)

(60) নালিশ্ *Nālish.* (Persian نالش *Nālish,* from نالیدن *Nālidun* to complain. A complaint, lamentation, expressed by the Sanscrit word অভিয়োগ)

(61) গোয়েন্দা *Goyendā.* (Persian گویندہ Part: act of گفتن *Guftan* to speak.) A Spy, informer, (expressed by the Sanscrit word চর *Char*).

menced pouring in. One Native made a representation to the effect, that the Foujdar of Hooghly received an annual salary of 72,000 rupees, and gave out of it 36,000 to Mr. Hastings, and 4,000 to his Dewan; but that he could conduct the duties on only 32,000 Rupees. Those who are acquainted with the Native character can easily detect the secret of this contemptible charge; but even this was received at that time. Witnesses were heard on this matter; and the other Members, who were hostile to Hastings, declared that sufficient proof had been produced. Accordingly the Foujdar was dismissed, and another person was appointed to his office; but nothing was done for the accuser. A. D. 1774.

26. A month after, the following charge appeared: that Muni Begum had not given account of nine lakhs of rupees. After much urging, (62) the Begum said that when Mr. Hastings went to instal her in office, she had, in her joy, given him a lakh and fifty thousand rupees to spend in rejoicings. Mr. Hastings acknowledged that he had certainly taken the money; but that he had laid it out on account of the Government, and had saved the Company a lakh and a half of rupees. He also asserted, that whenever the Nuwab of Bengal came and resided in Calcutta, a thousand Rupees were always given him for his daily expenditure. This apology (63) of Mr. Hastings was not admitted by any one; and yet there is no just ground for believing that this money was expended otherwise than on the Company's account.

27. It was now evident that any accusation which might be made would be admitted: accordingly the wicked Nundcoomar also took the opportunity to bring forward a charge. He asserted in strong terms to the following

(62) পীড়াপীড়ী *Pīrāpīrī*, Repeated torturing, bruising, pressing.

(63) হেতুবিন্যাস *Hetubinyās*, (Sanscrit.) Arrangement of arguments (হেতু a cause, a reason, an argument, and বিন্যাস orderly arrangement.)

A. D. 1774.

effect: "the Honorable the Governor General received three lakhs of rupees for appointing Muni Begum and my son Gooroodas to the guardianship (64) of the Nuwab at Moorshedabad." Francis and his partizans suggested that it would be proper to summon Nundcoomar before the Council to give his evidence. Mr. Hastings replied that he would not allow his accuser to come into the assembly in which he was the President; especially in such a case as this he would not consent, like a person of no consequence, and degrade the dignity of Governor General in the eyes of all India: rather this whole affair ought to be transferred to the Supreme Court. Saying this, Mr. Hastings arose and quitted the Council Chamber, and Mr. Barwell also followed him.

28. After their departure, Francis and his followers called Nundcoomar into the Council Chamber, when he read a paper, saying that Muni Begum had written that paper, specifying what bribes she had given, and at what times. Some days before the Begum had written a letter to the Government, which Sir John D'Oyly produced, for the purpose of comparison with the paper read by Nundcoomar. The seals agreed; but the hand writing was not the same. After the death of Nundcoomar the secret of this villainy came to light: he possessed the exact seals of all the chief people of Bengal. Of course that paper was a forgery. Nundcoomar had affixed the seal to it; Muni Begum knew nothing about it; of all this there is no doubt. The Members of the Council gave their opinion that the charge of Nundcoomar was correct, and that Mr. Hastings must return the money; but he would in no way agree.

29. Whilst this matter was still under discussion,

(64) রক্ষণাবেক্ষন *Rakhyanābekhyan*, (Sanscrit,) Literally—protecting and looking after (রক্ষন to protect that which is already acquired, and অবেক্ষন to observe, attend, to improve and increase one's acquisitions.)

Mr. Hastings brought an action against Nundcoomar in the Supreme Court for conspiracy (65); but the three Members of Council, to show their dislike of the Governor General went in state to visit Nundcoomar: such a proceeding had never before been witnessed in India. In this way Mr. Francis and his partizans for several years uninterruptedly set themselves in opposition to Mr. Hastings, and thereby produced confusion in numberless ways in the Government of the country. A. D. 1774.

30. Some days after Mr. Hastings' accusation, a Moosulman named Kumalooddeen complained, in the Supreme Court. that Nundcoomar had forged his name in a document. Nundcoomar, having been found guilty of this, was executed, by being hung, in the month of July, 1775. The Natives of India were quite confounded at beholding a man of great consequence and of the Brahminical caste hung in the city of Calcutta. The English had never before punished with death any Native of consequence. It is universally asserted that above a hundred thousand Natives were present at the place of execution, and that, up to the last moment, they believed that he would not be put to death; but when at last they saw him actually executed, the whole rushed with breathless haste (66) and plunged (67) into the waters of the Ganges, in order to wash away the sin arising from beholding the slaughter of a Brahmin. The blame of putting Nundcoomar to death fell upon Mr. Hastings, because all men believed that this affair was carried out through his efforts. But it was in truth the decision of the Supreme Court; and this was one of the numerous charges brought against that tribunal some years after.

(65) Literally—"Mr. Hastings, in the name of Nundcoomar, calling him a conspirator, in the Supreme Court made an accusation."

(66) ঊর্দ্ধশ্বাসে *Ūrddhashwāse.* With high or excited breathing.

(67) অবগাহন *Abagāhan.* (Sanscrit.) Bathing, immersion, (অব denoting "Depreciation, descent" before the Root গাহ্ to agitate.)

A. D. 1774.

31. There is no doubt that Nundcoomar was unequalled for villainy throughout the country. The Governors of Bengal had one and all successively pronounced him unworthy of confidence. He was detected as being concerned in rebellion with the party opposed to the English, and from after the battle of Plassey, he was always giving evil counsel to all parties: still his capital punishment was unjust. He had committed the crime for which he was punished by the Supreme Court, four years before the establishment of that Court; and of course a case of that standing could never be admissible in that tribunal. What is stronger, that crime was not capital according to Hindu law; therefore his execution was not conformable either to reason or law. He died leaving immense wealth. Having been long employed in various posts, he had amassed above a crore of rupees (68).

32. On the arrival in England of the news of the result of Mahommed Reza Khan's trial, the Directors observed that they firmly believed that the defendant was innocent, and that his accuser Nundcoomar was guilty of deceit. They, therefore, ordered, the dismissal of Gooroodas from the management of the Nuwab's affairs, and the appointment to his office of Mahommed Reza Khan.

33. The Members of the Supreme Council found that they had not sufficient leisure to be able to preside in person in the Sudder Nizamut Adawlut, therefore they resolved to revert to the former arrangement, and entrusted the duties of the Criminal Court and of the Police to the hands of a native; accordingly that Court was removed from Calcutta to Moorshedabad, and Mahommed Reza Khan was appointed to the principal post therein.

(68) Equal to a million of pounds sterling, reckoning ten rupees to the pound.

CHAPTER XVII.

A. D. 1774.

1. In the year 1772 the whole of the land had been let out (1) for five years, under the impression that the revenue might gradually increase. But it was seen in the very first year that the Zemindars had taken it at a rent higher than the revenue which they could afford to pay. By degrees the payment fell greatly into arrears. In these five years the Government were obliged to remit (2) one crore and eighteen lakhs of revenue, and still there was a balance against the farmers of one crore and twenty lakhs of rupees, the greater part of which there was no chance of recovering. Each party in the Council made out a new plan of arrangement and sent it to England, but the Directors rejected them both. In the year 1777, on the expiry of the agreement, the Directors ordered farms to be given for one year.

2. This rule for giving leases from year to year remained in force till the year 1782. The object of this arrangement was that the average sum realized in the three first years should be taken as a basis—and, if possible, the leases should be granted at that rate to the former Zemindars.

3. In the month of September 1776, occurred the death of Colonel Monson, consequently only two members of his party remained. Through this the Honora-

(1) ইজারা *Ijārā*, (from Arabic اجارة *Ijāra*) Hire, rent, a privilege or income of variable amount sold or let for a fixed sum, a farm.

(2) রেহাই *Rehāī*, (Persian رهائي *Rihāī*) Liberation, escape, acquittal, discharge.

A. D. 1776. ble Mr. Hastings regained his authority in the Council, for in case of an equal division the Governor General had the casting vote (3).

4. In the end of the year 1778 the Nuwab Moobarukooddowlah, having come of age, addressed a letter to the Supreme Council, with this request, that as Mahommed Reza Khan always behaved harshly to him, he should be removed. On this, in compliance with the opinion of Mr. Hastings, he was dismissed. The post of Naib Subadar was abolished, and the duty of managing the
A. D. 1778. Nuwab's household affairs was entrusted to Muni Begum. The Directors were highly displeased with this arrangement, and dismissed Muni Begum from the (management of the) Nuwab's household affairs, and speedily sent out instructions, that the post of Naib Subadar should be re-established, and Mahommed Reza Khan appointed thereunto.

5. The year 1778 is rendered memorable in the annals of Bengal, because in that year a book was first printed in the Bengallee character. Mr. Halhed, a person of great talent, having arrived in this country in the year 1770, in the Civil Service, commenced the study of the Native language. No European had before been able to carry his acquirements so far as he did. In the year 1772, when the duty of conducting the affairs of Government was entrusted to European Officers, Mr. Hastings was of opinion that it was necessary they should be acquainted with Native Law opinions (4). Accordingly, under his instructions and patronage, Mr. Halhed, after consulting all the Native works, compiled a Book of the

(3) Literally—"for in case of an equal number, the Governor General's vote was powerful."

(4) ব্যবস্থা *Byabasthā.* (Sanscrit.) A decree, a written declaration of the law; applied in practice to the written Extracts from the codes of law, stated as the opinions of the Hindu law Officers attached to the Courts of Justice.

Law opinions of the Hindoos and Moosulmans, which work was printed in the year 1775. A. D. 1778.

6. He had studied the Bengallee with great labor, and was the first among the English who was eminently proficient in that language. In the year 1778 he published a Grammar in the Bengallee language. No such book ever existed before. At that period there was no printing press at the capital; consequently, the above work was printed at Hooghly. The ever to be remembered Mr. Charles Wilkins had already commenced the study of several Native dialects, and being a great mechanic, and a very enterprizing person, he had first of all prepared a set (5) of Bengallee types, having engraved and cast them with his own hands. With these types the Grammar of his friend Mr. Halhed was printed.

7. A disagreement arose between the Supreme Court and the Government, by which many evils accrued to the country during several years. The above Court was established in the year 1774, but it had no connection with the Company's Government. When the Judges arrived in the country, they were firmly presuaded that dreadful oppression was exercised towards the people, and that the Supreme Court was the best means for removing their troubles. On landing from the ship at Chandpal Ghat they observed the Natives going about with naked feet, when one of them remarked, "look, brother, there are no bounds to the afflictions of the people: the Supreme Court was not established before it was necessary. I can confidently say that by the time our Court has gone on for only six months, we shall be able to let these miserable wretches wear shoes and stockings." (6)

(5) সাট *Shāt*, Corruption of English "*Set.*"

(6) ইষ্টকিং *Ishtaking*, from English "*Stocking.*" To write words beginning with "st" the Hindus, on account of the hardness of the "t" use the Palatal letters ষ্ট; now as the ষ is pronounced nearly like "sh," the pronouncing of this compound at the commencement

A. D. 1778.

8. British subjects, that is to say, all Englishmen residing in India, and all Natives living within the Mahratta Ditch, were included in the jurisdiction (7) of that Court, and it was also ruled, that all persons who should be, directly or indirectly, (8) in the service of the Company or of any British subject should be subject to the said Court. The Judges of the Supreme Court, relying on this rule, began interfering even in the affairs of Natives residing at a distance. They declared that all persons who paid Revenue to the Company were servants of the Company. It had been a great defect on the part of Parliament that they had not distinctly fixed the authority of the Court. They had set up in one country two distinct and contending authorities, between which the fire of contention now blazed up with fury.

9. At the very commencement of the business of the Supreme Court, its Judges began to extend their powers. If any person came and declared on oath in that Court that a certain Zemindar owed him money, a warrant (9) was immediately granted against him, even though he lived a hundred coss off, and, in spite of all excuses, he was seized, and brought, and cast into jail. At last, on declaring himself not amenable to the Supreme Court, he was set free; but no redress was afforded him for the disgrace that had accrued to him. The ill effects of this evil custom soon became apparent. Those tenants who

of a word, is to them difficult, and is indeed harsh. They consequently introduce an ই *i*, before the compound letters, and thereby render them medial and easier of pronunciation, hence "ishtew" for "stew," "ishtomach" for "stomach."

(7) এলাকা *Elākā* (from Arabic علاقه *Alāqa* or, vulgarly, *Ilāqa,)* 1. Dependance, relation, connexion, 2. Pretension, right.

(8) পরম্পরা *Paramparā.* (Sanscrit.) Communicated from one to another in succession.

(9) পরওয়ানা *Parwānā* (Persian, پروانه *Parwāna)* An order, a pass, a warrant.

designedly withheld their rents, seeing the Zemindars and Talookdars carried off to Calcutta in this style, altogether discontinued paying the Revenue. The first year the Judges of the Supreme Court had despatched warrants of this nature into all the Zillahs. At the sight of them, the utmost fear and agitation (10) diffused (11) themselves in the hearts of all throughout the country. The Zemindars beheld of a sudden a new and terrible calamity impending over them, that they were summoned to Calcutta to be tried according to laws of which they were in total ignorance; in fact, not a man of them had either seen, or heard of, such laws. A. D. 1778.

10. By degrees the Supreme Court began to extend its authority to such a point, that it interfered with the collection of the Government Revenue. At that time the weight of financial affairs was committed to the Provincial Courts. It was a custom of very long standing, that when the Zemindars were guilty of any impropriety in the payment of their rents, they were compelled to pay by imprisonment. This old rule was still in force at that period; but the Supreme Court began to interfere in this matter. When individuals who neglected payment of Revenue were confined in this way, all advised them to appeal to the Supreme Court; and as soon as they did so, they got their discharge on bail. The Zemindars discovered that by merely presenting a petition (12) to the Supreme Court they would no longer have to suffer imprisonment: consequently they all dis-

(10) উদ্বেগ *Udbeg.* (Sanscrit.) Fear, anxiety, agitation (উৎ "Up" and বিজ্ "to tremble with fear, be agitated." Affix ঘঞ্)

(11) সঞ্চার *Sanchār.* Transition, contagion, communication; a transmission of disease (সঞ্চারী রোগ a contagious, transmitted, or hereditary disease.)

(12) দরখাস্ত *Darkhāst* (Persian, درخواست *Darkhwāst*) Application, request, petition, appeal.

A. D. 1778. continued the payment of rents, so the collection of the Revenue, in a manner, gradually became almost suspended.

11. The Supreme Court began by degrees to interfere in all sorts of affairs; and cases regarding land began also to come before them. The Judges likewise commenced giving decrees and issuing orders at their own pleasure, without asking any question of the Zillah Courts. Whenever any old farmer refused to pay the rents agreed on, his farm used to be sold; but he would ruin the new farmer by bringing him into the Supreme Court. If any Zemindar bought an estate, the Insolvents (former farmers) complained against him in the Supreme Court, and he would be fined and disgraced for the crime of having recovered the Revenue according to law.

12. In like manner the Supreme Court began to display its authority likewise over the Provincial Criminal Courts. The Government had put the business of these Courts in the hands of the Nuwab of Moorshedabad. The Judges of the Supreme Court declared, "the Nuwab Moobarukooddowlah is a nonentity (13) and a puppet: (14) of what is he the ruler? Our authority extends throughout the whole of his rule." In reality the Nuwab was not subject to the Sovereign of England or his laws; nevertheless the Supreme Court adjudged it legal to issue warrants against him. The Judges plainly declared that they had authority over all matters relating to the Government and Revenue of the country:—that they would inflict condign punishment, agreeably to the laws of England, on any person who should transgress their orders:—that this Court was established for the purpose of protecting the Natives from the injustice and

(13) অপদার্থ *Apadārtha.* অ Negative and পদার্থ Material form of being.

(14) কাঠেরমূরৎ *Kāthermūrat.* (Bengalee.) Form or figure of wood.

oppression of the Company's officers: and that this object could not be effected if they were not armed with these extensive powers. In fact, their grand object was to make the Supreme Court all powerful, and to reduce the Supreme Government to a state of imbecility. A. D. 1778.

13. As illustrations of the above mentioned question, we will give the particulars of a civil and a criminal case. A certain rich Moosulman inhabitant of Patna died, (15) leaving behind his wife and a brother's son, and it was rumored that he had previously adopted his brother's son. Both these parties disputing (16) on the point of the right to his property, they brought the case into the provincial Court at Patna. The Judges, according to the correct mode of conducting business, commissioned the Kazee and Mooftee, that they should take the deposition (17) of witnesses, and decide the cause according to the Shura (18) of the Moosulmans. On this, through investigation, they discovered, that the whole of the proofs brought forward by both plaintiff and defendant were altogether forged; that neither one nor the other was the true (19) heir; and that, consequently, the property must

(15) পরলোক যাত্রা করে *Paraloka-jātra kare.* "Made departure to another world, or division of the universe, (in general three Loks are enumerated, namely heaven, hell, and earth: another classification enumerates seven, exclusive of the infernal regions.)

(16) বিবদমান *Bibadamān.* (Sanscrit.) Disagreeing, contending, litigating, (Pres. part. of Root বদ্ to speak, with prefix বি implying "Separation, aversion." This Root is used in two voices: being here in the middle voice শান is the affix of the present part. শতৃ being that of the active voice বিবদন্)

(17) জবানবন্দি *Jabānbandi* (Persian زبان بندي *Zabānbandī*) A written deposition.

(18) সরা *Sharā* (Arabic شرع *Shara*) 1. The precepts of Mahommed, law, equity. 2. a high road.

(19) প্রকৃত *Prakrita,* Made, accomplished, genuine, real, proper.

A. D. 1778. be partitioned agreeably to law (20). They accordingly assigned one-fourth of the whole estate to the widow of the deceased, and the remaining three-fourths (21) to his brother, whose son he, the original proprietor, had adopted. The childless widow (22) appealed to the Supreme Court. There is no doubt, that this case was clearly out of the province of the Supreme Court; and yet the Judges, in order to bring it within their jurisdiction, said that, as the deceased used to farm the Government collections, (23) he was of course an officer of the Company, and their authority extended to all Government Officers.

14. They also declared that, according to the law of England, the provincial Judges of Patna had no such power as to be able to transfer a cause to any person for decision: they therefore decided, that a second trial (24) of this case must be allowed. After this, by their judgment, the widow gained the victory, and obtained three lakhs of rupees.

15. They were not satisfied with this alone. In the end they dispatched a serjeant (25) to arrest the Kazee, Mooftee, and the testator's brother's son, and directed him not to release them, unless they could give security for four lakhs of rupees. The Kazee was arrested as he was on his way home from his place of business.

(20) শাস্ত্র *Shāstra.* An order, command, scripture, science, institutes of religion, law, or letters; especially considered as of divine origin or authority.

(21) বারআনা *Bāra ānā,* Twelve annas, Twelve-sixteenths or three-fourths.

(22) অবীরা *Abīrā.* (Sanscrit.) A woman who has neither husband nor son (অ Negative and বীর strong.)

(23) জমা *Jamā.* (Arabic جمع *Jama.*) A congregation, collection, accumulation.

(24) সানিতজবীজ *Shānitajbīj.* (Arabic تجريز ثاني *Thanītajviz.)* A second investigation, trial, judgment,

(25) সারজন *Sārjan.* Corruption of English "Serjeant."

16. The Judges of the Provincial Court were very anxious and distressed, lest a feeling of opposition should be engendered in the people by the sight of such proceedings. They perceived that the power of the Government was annihilated, and the course of public business was altogether stopped: therefore, in order that any thing untoward might not further occur, they became on that occasion securities for the Kazee. A. D. 1778.

17. The Supreme Court pronounced to be criminal all the persons who had adjudicated the above cause, and despatched sepoys to arrest them and bring them in. The Kazee, who had long presided in the Court and grown old, died on the road to Calcutta. The Mooftees, after remaining not less than four years in jail, at length obtained their release by the orders of Parliament, their only crime being this, that they had done their duty.

18. The Judges, not satisfied even with this, set up a complaint in the Supreme Court against the Provincial Judge himself, and fined him fifteen thousand rupees, which sum was paid from the Company's Treasury.

19. Of the mode in which the Judges of the Supreme Court interfered in the decision of criminal causes, the undermentioned details may be a good specimen. A certain European attorney (26) of the Supreme Court was in the habit of visiting Dacca. A common pyada, (27) having been guilty of some offence, was complained against in the Criminal Court of that city; and, his guilt being proved, it was ordered, that he should remain in prison until he atoned for his fault. (28)

(26) উকিল *Ukil.* (Arabic وكيل *Wakīl.)* A representative, delegate.

(27) পেয়াদা *Peyādā* (Persian پیادہ *Piyāda*) A footman, a foot soldier, a messenger.

(28) Literally—"as long as he should not wash or clean away (wipe off) his fault, so long he should remain in imprisonment."

A. D. 1778.

20. According to the advice of all he was induced to petition the Supreme Court. One of the Judges of that Court, seizing on the pretext (29) that he had falsely imprisoned the pyada, issued a warrant for arresting and bringing in the Dewan of the Criminal Court. The Foujdar was sitting surrounded by his friends and the officers when, just at that juncture, the European attorney dispatched a Bengalee to his house, who, entering, prepared to arrest his Dewan, but, being opposed by all, he was obliged to return to his patron. (30) The attorney, immediately on hearing of these circumtances, took several armed men along with him, and endeavoured to force himself into the Foujdar's house. The family of the latter resided in that dwelling, therefore he opposed his entrance, and, in consequence, a great tumult (31) occurred.

21. A follower of the attorney wounded the Foujdar's father in the head, and the attorney himself, drawing out a pistol, (32) shot the brother-in-law (33) of the Foujdar; but luckily the wound did not prove mortal. (34) Mr. Hyde, a Judge of the Supreme Court, on hearing of this affair, immediately wrote off to the Military Commandant at Dacca, that he should assist the attorney, and also intreated him to apprise the attorney that he was highly pleased with what he had done, and that he should have due encouragement from the Supreme Court. The gentle-

(29) সূত্র *Shūtra.* (Sanscrit.) A thread, string, pretext.

(30) মনিব *Manib* (Arabic منيب *Munīb.)* One who appoints a Nayib or deputy, a patron, a master, a constituent.

(31) দাঙ্গা *Dāngā*, (Hindee দঙ্গা *Dangā.*) Wrangling, confusion, tumult, sedition.

(32) পিস্তল *Pistal.* Corruption of English "Pistol."

(33) সম্বন্ধি *Sambandhi.* (Sanscrit.) A relation, In Bengalee, wife's brother.

(34) মারাত্মক *Mārātmak*, (Sanscrit) Murderous, (মার Slaying and আত্মক disposed to.)

men of the Provincial Council of Dacca wrote a letter to the Governor General, stating that the whole of the judicial business of the Criminal Court was at once suspended, and that if such excesses were committed, no more natives would be procured to carry on (35) the business of Government. A. D. 1778.

22. The Governor General and Members of Council perceived that the whole authority of the Government had been annihilated by the Supreme Court; but they had in no wise the courage to make any retaliation. (36) The Judges asserted that they were appointed to their office by the King, that their authority greatly exceeded that of all the Company's Officers, and that they would punish as rebels whatever persons should transgress their commands. But at last such an occurrence fell out as involved both parties in the most serious disputes.

23. On the 13th of August 1779, Kasheenath Baboo, the Calcutta agent of the Rajah of Kasheejora, brought an action against the said Rajah in the Supreme Court. On this a warrant was issued against the Rajah, and he was required to give bail to the amount of three lakhs of rupees. In order to evade (37) this warrant, he absconded, and it returned unexecuted. (38) Another warrant was then issued to confiscate (39) the whole of his property, both moveable and fixed, and the Sheriff despatch-

(35) আঞ্জাম *Ānjām.* (Persian انجام *Anjām.)* End, termination, accomplishment.

(36) প্রতিবিধান *Pratibidhān.* (Sanscrit.) Counteracting, remedying.

(37) এড়াইবা *Erāibā.* Gerund of এড়ান *Erāna.* To quit, fly from.

(38) জারী *Jārī,* (Arabic جاري *Jārī)* Running, flowing, proceeding, current.

(39) ক্রোক *Krok,* (Arabic قرق *Qurq*) An embargo, confiscation, seizure.

A. D. 1778. ed a serjeant and sixty armed men to carry this purpose into effect.

24. The Rajah represented to the Goverment, that the people of the Court had come and beaten and wounded his people, had broken into his house, entered his female apartments, and plundered all the goods and chattels; had profaned his temple, and taken the jewels off the body of his deity; had stopped the collection of the revenues, and forbidden the tenants (40) to pay any more rents.

25. The Honorable the Governor General in Council (41) came to the resolution, that it was now highly necessary to be on the alert, otherwise if they remained inactive in such circumstances, they would of course find the business of Government entirely impeded (42). They then forbid the Rajah to obey the orders of the Supreme Court, and sent directions to the Military Commandant at Midnapore to arrest (43) the Sheriff's people. In consequence of the delay in the arrival of these instructions, their oppressive acts, and the plunder of the Rajah's dwelling, could not be prevented; but on their way back they were all imprisoned.

26. At that juncture the Governor General also directed that all Zemindars, Talookdars, and Choudhrees, whatever individuals were not British subjects nor bound by any particular agreement, should not obey the orders of the Supreme Court, and he also prohibited the Rajahs in the provinces from assisting the Supreme Court with their troops.

(40) রাইয়ত *Rāiyat* (Arabic رعيت *Raiyat*) A subject, tenant.

(41) বৈঠক *Baethak*, (Hindee बैठक *Baethak*) A sitting, session, assembly.

(42) লোপাপত্তি *Lopāpatti* (Sanscrit.) লোপ Erasure, disappearance, and আপত্তি obtaining.

(43) আটক *Ātak* (Hindee अटक *Atak*) Prevention, stop, obstruction; name of a River.

A. D. 1780.

27. Immediately on receiving the news of the serjeant and his companions being imprisoned, the Judges, being highly incensed, first cast the Company's attorney into prison and locked him up, under the plea that he had communicated the intelligence, upon which their people had been arrested. At length they issued a summons against the Governor General and Members of Council, because they had, on the grounds of the case of Kashenath Baboo, imprisoned the people of the Supreme Court, and thereby shown contempt to the orders of the Court. But Mr. Hastings answered plainly, that they would not obey the orders of the Court in a matter which they had carried out according to the authority vested in their office. This affair occurred in the month of March of the year 1780.

28. In the mean time all the English inhabitants of Calcutta, and also the Governor General himself, had forwarded a petition to Parliament, in order to ask for deliverance from the tyranny of the Supreme Court. After special consideration of this matter a new law was promulgated, by which the insolence displayed by the Judges of the Supreme Court, for the purpose of establishing their authority over the whole country, was repressed.

29. Before this law was issued Mr. Hastings had pacified (44) the Supreme Court, by infusing honey into the mouths of the Judges; that is to say, he made the Chief Justice, Sir Elijah Impey, principal Judge of the Sudder Dewany Adawlut, with an additional salary of 5,000 Rupees a month, and began to allow him also six hundred Rupees a month for office (45) rent. One of the Puisne Judges also he raised to affluence, by giving him a new appointment at Chinsurah, which town had come into the hands of the English after the war with the

(44) ঠাণ্ডা *Thāndā*, (Hindee ঠণ্ডা *Thandā*) Cold. ঠাণ্ডাকরন To make cold. Extinguish, comfort, appease.

(45) আপিশ *Āpish*, (English) "*Office.*"

A. D. 1780. Dutch. For some time after this we hear of no more claims of the Supreme Court.

30. Taking advantage of this opportunity (46) Mr. Hastings introduced many good regulations into the country Courts. He established Civil Courts in several of the Zillahs for the purpose of hearing civil causes, and left to the Provincial Court only the responsibility of the Financial business. The Chief Justice, when installed into the appointment at the Sudder Dewany Adawlut, drew out several Rules for the conducting of the Civil business of the Zillah Courts. In this way ninety Regulations were by degrees prepared, and, resting on this foundation, Lord Cornwallis, some time after, framed the Civil Code.

31. As soon as the intelligence of Sir Elijah Impey's appointment to the Sudder Dewany reached England, the Court of Directors violently disapproved of it. They could see that Mr. Hastings had assented to this matter only for the sake of preserving peace; but it was quite contrary to all rule. (47) The Royal ministers also recalled Sir Elijah Impey, on the ground of his having accepted the employment in the Sudder Dewany, and commenced an investigation into his conduct. Sir Gilbert Elliot appeared as his prosecutor. This very gentleman, some time after, became Governor General of India, under the name of Lord Minto.

32. On the 29th of January in the year 1780 a newspaper was published in Calcutta. Such a thing was never before seen in India.

33. For the period of four years after this Mr. Hastings almost withdrew from the affairs of Bengal, and was engaged in arranging the state affairs of Benares (48)

(46) Literally.—"Having obtained this leisure."

(47) বেআইন *Beāīn* (Pers: بي *Be*, without, out of; and آئين Regulation, rule, common law) Contrary to rule.

(48) বারাণসী *Bārānashī*. The name of a District and of its capital in the Province of Allahabad. Hamilton says, "the Sanscrit name

and Oude, in the war with Hyder Ali the King of Mysore, (49) in establishing peace in all parts of India, and in other like transactions. His management of the affairs of the Western Provinces was very much blamed both by the Court of Directors and in Parliament; especially in the House of Commons, it was moved that Mr. Hastings had destroyed the property and honor of Englishmen, and it was therefore proper to deprive him of his office; but as this motion was not generally approved, he remained in his appointment. At the end of the year 1784, he once more proceeded to Oude, and on his return, in the commencement of the year 1785, having made over to his successor, Mr. Macpherson, the keys of the Treasury and of Fort William, he embarked on board a ship and arrived in England in the month of June. A. D. 1784.

34. In the year 1784 occurred the death of Mr. Cleveland, a great benefactor of this country. He came out to India at a very early age in the Civil Service, and immediately after his arrival the whole weight of the management of the Government of the district of Boglipore (50) was entrusted to his hands. In the southern por-

of this place is Varanashi, from Vara and Nashi, two streams. The Ganges here makes a fine sweep of about four miles in length, and on the convex side of the curve, which is also the most elevated, stands the holy city of Benares." Again, "Benares or Casi (কাশী from কাশ to shine, be beautiful or renowned,) or Varanashi, the first being merely the Mahomedan misnomer adopted by Europeans, is held by the Hindoos to be sacred for ten miles round, and the famous *Lingam* it contains is said to be a petrifaction of Siva himself."—(See Hamilton's East India Gazetteer).

(49) মহীসুর *Mahīshur*, (Sanscrit মহিষাসুর *Mahishāsura*, The Demon Mahisha, from মহিষ a Buffaloe, and অসুর A Demon,) A large province in the south of India, situated principally between the eleventh and fifteenth degrees of north latitude, and now surrounded by the British territories under the Madras Presidency.—(See Hamilton.)

(50) ভাগলপুর *Bhāgalpur*, Name of a district and town in the south-east corner of the Province of Bengal.

A. D. 1784.

tion of this district there is a range of mountains, the table land (51) of which was inhabited by uncivilized tribes of mountaineers, (52) who were constantly oppressed by the neighbouring tribes, and who used also occasionally to descend from their mountains, and carry off the whole of the property of their oppressors. He used his utmost endeavours to improve their condition, and omitted no efforts in such arrangements as were likely to contribute to their comforts. These his endeavours were attended with success. By degrees the condition of the whole of the district under his charge became changed, and the tribes of mountain savages became as peaceful as the civilized tribes.

35. From not being properly cultivated (53) the climate of this country was very unhealthy. Mr. Cleveland having from this cause suffered greatly in bodily health, went to sea, in the hopes of recovery, and there died, at the age of only 29 years. The Court of Directors were so pleased with his good qualities, that they directed a monumental column to be raised over his grave. (54) Since he had civilized the degraded mountaineers, they also asked for permission to build a monument to perpetuate the memory of his numerous good qualities. (55) The Na-

(51) অধিত্যকা *Adhityakā*, (Sanscrit.) Land on the upper part of a mountain, (অধি Above, over, and ত্যকন্ Affix.)

(52) পুলিন্দ *Pulinda*, (Sanscrit.) A barbarian, a savage or mountaineer, one who uses an uncultivated and unintelligible dialect (পুল্ to be large, and the *Unadi* affix কিন্দচ্)

(53) আবাদ *Ābād*, (Persian آباد *Ābād*) Cultivated, inhabited, full of buildings and inhabitants, populous, pleasant, prosperous.

(54) Literally—"they directed, that a grave-column should be formed for his remembrance" (সমাধি a grave, tomb, from সম্ prefix of assemblage, intensity, আঙ্ prefix of extension, and root ধা to have, hold: স্তম্ভ A pillar, column from ষ্টভ্ to stop, hinder, be fixed.

(55) গুণগ্রাম *Gunagrām*, (Sanscrit.) A multitude of good qua-

tives had never before this erected a monument in memory of any European. A. D. 1784.

36. In the year 1783 Sir William Jones came out to this country as a Judge of the Supreme Court. He had obtained a very great reputation at home by his literary acquirements, and his chief object in coming to India was that he might be enabled to enquire deeply into the manners, customs, history, and religion of this country. He commenced without delay to learn the Sanscrit language; but it was very difficult to obtain a Pundit (56). The Brahmins would not consent to give instructions to one of a barbarian tribe (57) in the pure language, and in the sciences of their nation. After great search, a Boidya (58) well skilled in Sanscrit, agreed to teach him that language on a salary of five hundred rupees a month. Sir William Jones became so proficient in that languge, that he, with ease translated the work styled "The Institutes of Menu" (59) into English.

37. In the year 1784 he established in Calcutta the Asiatic Society, for the purpose of enquiring into the anci-

lities, (গুণ A quality, attribute, property, and গ্রাম *in composition*, a multitude.)

(56) পণ্ডিত *Pandit*, (Sanscrit.) A scholar, a teacher, a Pundit, a learned Brahman, or one read in sacred science and teaching it to his disciples (পণ্ডা Wisdom, learning, and ইত Affix.)

(57) ম্লেচ্ছ *Mlechchha*, (Sanscrit.) The generic term for a barbarian or foreigner; that is for one speaking any language but Sanscrit and not subject to the usual Hindu institutions (ম্লেচ্ছ to speak inarticulately, affix ষঞ্) ম্লেচ্ছজাতি a Mlechchha or barbarian, or man of an outcast race. The tribes enumerated under this head by Menu, but who are by him said to be properly Kshetriyas, appear to be chiefly the inhabitants of the countries bordering immediately upon India, both to the North and South.—(See Wilson's Sanscrit Dictionary).

(58) বৈদ্য *Baidya*, (Sanscrit.) A Physician, a caste whose special duty is to practise medicine and surgery.

(59) মনুসংহিতা *Manu-sanhitā*, (Sanscrit.) The code or digest

A. D. 1784. ent manners, customs, habits, languages, sciences, &c. of India. Several persons who had a turn for these matters became his associates in this undertaking. The knowledge which the Europeans now possess on all the above subjects, owes its origin to the research of these persons. Mr. Hastings was the first President of this society, and he with much zeal stimulated the exertions of the Members. No Englishman has up to this time come to India endowed with every good quality equally with Sir William Jones. The learned Natives evince their respect and esteem at the very mention of his name. He died, after a ten years' residence in this country, at the age of fifty-nine years.

38. As soon as Mr. Hastings arrived in England the Directors publicly evinced their satisfaction with his conduct. He had, it is true, been guilty of reprehensible conduct in several matters, but it must be admitted that he had, to the extent of his ability, managed affairs with skill and labor, and that he had confirmed the empire which Clive had gained by his victories. The greater portion of the offences attributed to him originated in the bad conduct of Native Officers of his appointment. Gunga Govind Singh, Kanto Baboo, and Debee Singh, these three persons, through his placing great power in their hands, amassed immense riches during his administration. Among these Debee Singh appears to have been

of Menu. মনু *Manu.* A legislator and saint, the son of *Brahmā* or personification of *Brahmā* himself, the creator of the world and progenitor of mankind: the name is, however, a general term, and in every *Kalpa*, or interval from creation to creation, there are fourteen successive *Manus* presiding over the universe for the period of a *Manwantara* respectively. In the present creation there have been six Manus (মন্ to know or understand the Vedas or scriptures especially. সংহিতা A compendium, a collection more or less compressed of laws, legends, &c. A compilation, code, digest. (সম্ prefix of "assemblage" &c. ধা to have or hold, affix ক্ত and আপ্ for the feminine.)

the most depraved. Having farmed extensive Government lands, he gathered great wealth by inflicting the utmost vexations on the poor tenants. The heart of any one would be penetrated with indignation and terror at the perusal of the frightful cruelties committed by this wicked and base wretch in several places, especially in Dinagepoor. (60) A. D. 1784.

39. All these faults were attributed in England to Mr. Hastings, but the natives of Hindoostan know well the difference between the orders of a superior and the bad conduct of his *employés*. During the first six years of his Government, the Members of Council, setting themselves in opposition to him, failed not, to the utmost of their power, to insult and perplex him; and at that time also his authority was almost abolished by the encroachments of the Supreme Court: but he showed his magnanimity in declaring, that, as many difficulties were then impending, it would be improper for him on any account to resign his office. In a word, he was endowed with such a high sense of honour and such courage that he treated calamities with contempt. At the close of his Government, he was constantly engaged in hostilities with Hyder Ali, and the whole of the Revenues were expended in that contest. He was always involved in great difficulties for money, and therefore used sometimes to collect funds by strange expedients. In fact, considering everything, we must admit that he was a very great man. The Natives evince a high degree of homage for him and they teach their children to pronounce with affection the name of Warren Hastings.

(60) দিনাজপুর *Dinājpur*. The name of a district and town in the Province of Bengal; the former is situated principally between the twenty-fifth and twenty-sixth degrees of north latitude. On the north it is bounded by Rungpoor and Purneah; on the south by Rajeshahy and Mymunsingh; to the east it has Rungpoor and Mymunsingh, and to the west Purneah and Boglepoor.—(See Hamilton's Gazetteer.)

A. D. 1784.

40. In the year 1783, on the whole of the affairs of the Company being brought before Parliament, the Prime Minister, Mr. Fox, prepared a new plan for the Government of India. Had this plan been adopted, the connexion of the Company with India would have been extinguished, but in consequence of the aversion of the English monarch from giving his assent to this measure Mr. Fox lost his appointment.

41. Mr. William Pitt was appointed Prime Minister in his stead. He was then only twenty-four years old, but he possessed extraordinary abilités for conducting the affairs of Government. He brought forward a new plan for the Government of this country, which was accepted both by the Parliament and the King. Up to this period the Directors alone had managed the whole of the affairs of this country and the Ministers of the King used not to interfere in any matter.

42. But in the year 1784, when Mr. Pitt's scheme was put in force, a body, styled the Board of Control, was established, for the consideration of all matters connected with India, and the Members of this Board had been appointed by the King himself. They had authority to inquire into all affairs in India excepting the Company's trade. Since that time the management of the Government is conducted according to the joint opinions of the King's Ministers and the Company.

CHAPTER XVIII.

1. Mr. Hastings on his departure for his own country made over the Government to Mr. Macpherson; but the Directors, as soon as they received the intelligence of his return home, appointed Lord Cornwallis to both the posts of Governor General and Commander-in-Chief He was a man of an ancient and noble family, (1) possessed of great wealth, and endowed with uncommon wisdom. He had already filled great offices (2) in several parts of the globe, and had of course become thoroughly conversant with all kinds of business. A. D. 1786.

2. He arrived in India in the year 1786. All the dissensions, by the existence of which the Government of Mr. Hastings had been weakened, were at once composed by the reputation and great influence of Lord Cornwallis. He governed for seven years without the least opposition. After that, having declared war against the Prince of Mysore, Tippoo Sultan, the son of Hyder Ali, he humbled his pride, and at last, at the Sultan's solicitation, accepted terms of peace, after exacting from him a large portion of his dominions, and all the expences of the war.

3. The opponents of Mr. Hastings began to show the direst enmity towards him in England. At length, on the 13th of February of the year 1788, the members of the House of Commons, brought charges against him in the House of Lords, as a great delinquent and evil-doer. His trial was entered upon with unusual

(1) Literally—"he was for a succession of generations the offspring of great men."

(2) Literally—"Completed great affairs."

A. D. 1788.

solemnity: (3) the whole of the Royal family and the nobles, female as well as male, attended; and the chief men of England appeared in that great assembly as his accusers. (4) The searching investigation which was made into his conduct was quite unequalled by anything of the kind that had ever before occurred in the case of any Government officer. From the numerous delays in various matters his trial lasted seven years. At length, on the 23rd of April of the year 1795, the whole of the Lords, with the exception of three or four, unanimously acquitted him of all the charges.

4. The name of Lord Cornwallis has become ever memorable in India, on account of the important measure which he effected of the permanent settlement (5) of the land revenue of Bengal and Behar. The Directors perceived that great injury accrued to the country from constantly making new arrangements in the collection of the Revenue. They considered, that thirty years had now elapsed since they obtained the Dewany, and that consequently in so long a period the Europeans must necessarily be well acquainted with everything connected with the land. They concluded that the time had arrived, for making such a fair settlement, to continue for a long period, as would not entail loss on either the tenant or the Government, and it was their constant wish that one rate of Revenue should be permanently established. But Lord Cornwallis found that the Government had not yet obtained any certain information on this subject,

(3) সমারোহ *Samāroha*, (Sanscrit) Pomp.

(4) Literally—" being present in that great assembly, began to make accusations in his name."

(5) কায়েমী বন্দোবস্ত *Kāyemī bandobast* (Ar. and Pers. قايمي بندوبست *Qā,imī bandobast.*) Permanent settlement, (*qā,imī*, properly *qā,im*, Standing, firm, lasting, and, *Bandobast*, arrangement, settlement.)

consequently he of necessity kept in force (6) the existing yearly settlement. A. D. 1793.

5. And at the same time, having prepared a number of questions, he sent them to all the Collectors, with the view of obtaining from their answers explicit (7) information regarding the land revenue. The reports (8) which they made were not of the least use, the greater portion of them having been prepared with the aid of the Native Omlahs, who, at this favorable opportunity, realized also considerable profits. Although these reports were indeed contemptible, yet there was no hope of at that time obtaining better. A decennial settlement was therefore entered into for the occasion, and it was publicly notified that it should be made permanent if the Directors raised no objections.

6. After this Mr. John Shore, a distinguished Civil Servant, was commissioned to prepare a new scheme for the Revenue, in which department he was well-versed. Although his own opinion was not in favor of the perpetual settlement, yet he had afforded the Government every assistance in bringing forward this question. In the decennial settlement it was fixed that the Zemindars, who used up to this time only to collect the Revenue, should be proprietors of the soil, and that the tenants should settle with them on the subject of the Revenue.

7. The Native Officers had destroyed almost all the old documents connected with the Revenue. After examination of all such as were found remaining, and taking the average of what had been collected in several previous years, the rate of taxation was fixed.

(6) বজায় *Bajāe*, (Persian بجا *Bajā*) In place confirmed, continued.

(7) সটীক *Satīk*, (Sanscrit.) Accompanied by a commentary, clear, correct, (স with, and টীকা a commentary.)

(8) রিপোর্ট *Riport*, from English "Report."

A. D. 1793. The custom of incidental (9) collections was abolished, and in consequence something was remitted to the Zemindars. Government also publicly notified that this arrangement had nothing to do with rent-free lands; but that the title deeds of all such lands would be tested in the Courts: all such as were genuine should continue in force, (10) and those that appeared fictitious should be abrogated, (11) and the lands resumed. (12)

8. On this whole scheme being submitted to the Directors they at once approved of it, and gave permission to Lord Cornwallis to render this settlement fixed and permanent. Accordingly, on the 22nd of March 1793, it was publicly notified that the Revenue of Bengal and Behar was fixed permanently at 3,10,89,150 Rupees (13) and that of Benares at 40,00,615 Rupees (14).

9. There is no doubt that great advantage has accrued to the country of Bengal from the existence of the Permanent Settlement, and if in its stead the old plan of constant new changes in Revenue affairs had been carried, this country would never have arrived at a state of prosperity. But two unpropitious circumstances attended

(9) বাজে *Bāje*, (Ar. بعضي *Bāze*,) Some, certain ones, incidental, irregular.

(10) বাহাল *Bāhāl*, (Pers. Ar. بحال *Bahāl*,) In state or condition, unaltered, continued, reinstated, restored.

(11) বাতিল *Bātil*, (Ar. باطل *Bātil*,) False, absurd, futile, abolished.

(12) বাজেয়াপ্ত *Bājyāpta*, (Pers. با زیافت *Bazyāft*) Recovery, resumption.

(13) Three Crores, ten lakhs, eighty-nine thousand, one hundred and fifty, equal, at the rate of ten Rupees to the pound, to three millions, one hundred and eight thousand, nine hundred and fifteen pounds sterling.

(14) Forty lakhs, six hundred and fifteen Rupees, equal, at ten Rupees to the pound, to four hundred thousand and sixty-one pounds, and ten shillings.

this measure. The first was that the arrangement was made without first obtaining explicit information regarding the land and its value. The consequence was that an excessive tax was fixed on some lands, and a very mild rate on others. The second was that when the whole lands were settled, those tenants, who during a long residence had continued to enjoy the produce of the soil, were not provided with any facile means for escaping from the caprice (15) of the new Zemindars. A. D. 1793.

10. The year 1793 is specially memorable in the history of Bengal, because in it various laws were enacted for the Government of that province. Lord Cornwallis collected the several laws which had been enacted at various periods, and, after correcting them, published them, with several new additions, in the shape of a book of decisions. This was the ground of all future decisions. The Regulations of 1793 are so simple, and exhibit so much talent, that we must assign the highest praise for them to the distinguished Governor General, who was their author. The whole of these laws have been translated into several Native languages, and are everywhere current. Many natives of the present day, who are quite ignorant of the Regulations of recent date, are still able to repeat from memory, and to easily quote as proofs, the laws of the year 1793.

11. Mr. Forster, who was at that time the best Bengallee scholar, translated all those laws into this language. This gentleman at a subsequent period prepared for the first time a Dictionary of the Bengallee language. Mr. N. B. Edmonstone, who was eminently skilled in the Persian, translated the Regulations into that language. This translation was so excellent, that

(15) স্বেচ্ছাচার *Swechchhāchār*. (Sanscrit) Acting according to one's own will or inclination, wilfulness, self-will, (স্বেচ্ছা one's own will or inclination, and আচার conduct, usage, practice.)

A. D. 1793. the Government, to testify its satisfaction, bestowed on him a reward of ten thousand Rupees. The whole of the Rules which were introduced into the Courts of law in conformity with the abovenamed Regulations, continued in force for twenty-four years, but after that some were altered, on its being determined to bestow high judicial posts on Natives.

12. Lord Cornwallis established five grades in Courts of law. First, the Moonsiff and Sudder Ameen (16) Second, the Register. Third, the Zillah Judge. Fourth, the Provincial Court. Fifth, the Sudder Dewany Adawlut, the last Court of Appeal in India. He increased the salaries of all the Civil Servants appointed by the Company, with a view that they might no longer be tempted to take bribes, but the pay of the Native Officers of Courts remained very low (17) as before. Formerly European Officers in very high situations used to receive monthly salaries of only a few hundreds of Rupees, now they began to draw many thousands. Natives had formerly been in the habit of getting very large salaries; a Foujdar used to receive from sixty to seventy thousand Rupees yearly, and each Naib Dewan of a Soobah did not receive less than nine lakhs a year; but in the year 1793 the highest salary of a Native was not more than one hundred Rupees. Still the arrangements of Lord Cornwallis were respected and praised throughout the country.

13. He strengthened the Government, and, by effecting the Permanent Settlement, rendered the people satisfied, and the gratitude which the Natives displayed for his

(16) সদর আমীন *Sadar Āmīn* (Ar: صدر امين *Sadr Amīn.*) Chief Judge (*Sadr*, Chief, Supreme, and *Amīn*, safe, constant, faithful, a commissioner, arbitrator, investigator, from امن *Amn* Security, safety.)

(17) সামান্য *Sāmānya.* (Sanscrit) Common, general, vulgar, mean.

gracious and wise conduct was not unworthily bestowed. The Directors, as a proof of their recognition of his numerous good qualities, decreed that his statue (18) ought to be placed in the India House, and that he should be allotted a pension of fifty thousand Rupees a year, for twenty years from the day of his quitting India. A. D. 1793.

14. On the 28th of October Sir John Shore was appointed to the office of Governor General. He came out to India in the Civil Service at a very early age, but he soon became well-known for his superior judgment and deep discrimination. At the time of the Decennial Settlement, he drew out, on the subject of the Revenue of the country, a memorandum, (19) in which were displayed such profound knowledge, and penetration, (20) that on its being laid before Mr. Pitt, the Prime Minister of England, he was astonished, and after meeting and consulting the Directors, resolved that, after Lord Cornwallis, this person ought to be appointed to the post of Governor.

15. A short time after, he obtained the title of Baronet. The year after his appointment, occurred the death of the celebrated, impartial, and learned judge of the Supreme Court, Sir William Jones, at the age of 47. There existed the warmest friendship between him and Sir John Shore, who compiled a history of his life, and published it in a work which has attained great celebrity.

(18) প্রতিমূর্ত্তি *Pratimūrtti.* (Sanscrit.) Resemblance, an image, a likeness.

(19) পাণ্ডুলেখ্য *Pāndulekhya,* (Sanst.) A rough draft, sketch, (পাণ্ডু Pale, and লেখ্য a letter, a manuscript, a drawing, from লিখ to write, affix ণ্যৎ)

(20) পারদর্শিতা *Pāradarshitā.* (Sanscrit) The seeing of the utmost limit of an art, science, &c. complete knowledge, profundity (পার The further or opposite bank of a river, the end, extremity, and root দৃশ to see.)

A. D. 1795. 16. In the year 1795 occurred the demise of the Nuwab Moobaruk-ood-Dowlah, who was succeeded by his son Nazir-ool-Moolk. But at that period the appointment of a Nuwab of Moorshedabad had come to be a very ordinary affair: it is therefore sufficient merely to state, that the son began to receive the same monthly allowance (21) as was received by the father. The sovereign of England had bestowed on Sir John Shore the title of Lord Teignmouth. The latter, after having governed India in peace for five years, at length applied for leave to resign his office. During his rule no important matter, worthy of record, took place in Bengal; but at the conclusion of his government, an alarming affair presented itself.

17. The troops began to show signs of discontent. The English were at war with the French. In this juncture, Tippoo Sultan, the chief of Mysore, was repeatedly applying to the French in the hopes of being assisted with troops. He could not forget even for a moment, the manner in which the English had humbled him in the former war. Night and day he only thought of the means of taking his revenge (22) on them. He had also conceived the hope that, with the aid of the French, he might altogether drive the English out of India. The Directors, reflecting on all these matters, resolved that it was proper at this juncture to send out some able (23) person in the character of Governor General. They solicited Lord Cornwallis again to accept the task of go-

(21) মসহরা *Mashaharā* (Ar. مشاهرة *Mushāhara*) Monthly salary, pay, wages, allowance. (from شهر *Shahr*, a month.)

(22) বৈরনির্য্যাতন *Baira-nirjātan* (Sanscrit.) Repaying enmity. Revenge, recrimination (বৈর enmity, hostility and নির্য্যাতন gift, payment of a debt, revenge.)

(23) শক্ত *Shakta*, (Sanscrit.) Able, capable, strong (Root শক to be able, affix ক্ত)

verning India, and he assented to their proposal; but when the preparations for his coming out were actually in progress he was appointed Viceroy (24) of Ireland. A. D. 1798.

18. The Directors without delay appointed to that high office Lord Mornington, who afterwards became Marquis of Wellesley. This nobleman had been educated by the brother of Lord Cornwallis, and had labored with much zeal in the study of the politics of India. He arrived in Calcutta on the 18th of May of the year 1798. He possessed all the foresight, and courage, and wisdom which were required in those troublesome (25) times. The moment he undertook the task of governing India, all fears for the empire vanished, (26) and courage began to spring up in the minds of all men.

19. At the period of his arrival, money had become so scarce, that even a loan at 12 per cent. was at a discount of four per cent. The troops were in the first place unskilful, and in the next place discontented. On the Northern boundary Scindia, and on the Southern Tippoo Sultan, being bitter enemies, were displaying a threatening aspect, and the influence of the French in Hindoostan was every day rapidly increasing. He speedily raised the army to a high state of efficiency, (27) and expelled all the French officers who with numerous troops resided in Hyderabad (28). Having disbanded

(24) রাজপ্রতিনিধি *Rājapratinidhi* (Sanscrit.) The king's substitute.

(25) ঝঞ্ঝাট *Jhanjhāt*, (B.) Perplexity, trouble, and difficulty.

(26) অন্তর্হিত *Antarhita*. (Sanscrit.) Covered, concealed, disappeared (অন্তর্ within and ধা to hold, affix ক্ত; হি substituted for ধা The abstract noun is অন্তর্ধা or অন্তর্ধান concealment, disappearance.)

(27) কর্ম্মঠ *Karmaṭha*, (Sanscrit.) Efficient, capable.

(28) হৈদরাবাদ *Haedarābād*. The Capital of a Province of the same name and of the Nizam's Dominions, situated in the Deccan—(See Hamilton's Gazetteer).

A. D. 1799. all the forces whom they had collected, he placed English soldiers in their room, and at once proclaimed war against Tippoo, since among all the enemies he had become the most arrogant.

20. The Members of the Council of Madras did not support the opinions of Lord Wellesley, but, on the contrary, were opposed to him. Consequently, without the slightest delay, he took his departure for Madras, and having duly reproved them for such conduct on their part, began himself to manage all affairs. Having speedily assembled an Army, he despatched it against Tippoo Sultan, on the 27th of March 1799. These troops marched (29) with such speed that Seringapatam, (30) the capital of Tippoo, fell into the hands of the English, on the 4th of May, Tippoo being slain in the engagement. Thus ended the sovereignty of the family of Hyder. The Directors on receiving the accounts of that bold war, bestowed on the Governor General a pension of fifty thousand Rupees *per annum*.

21. In the month of October, of the year 1799, Doctors Marshman, Ward and other Protestant Ministers (31) first founded at Serampore an establishment (32)

(29) প্রস্থান *Prasthān.* (Sanst.) Going forth, departure, proceeding march of an assailant, march (প্র away, away from; and স্থা to say, affix অনট্)

(30) শ্রীরঙ্গপত্তন *Shrī Ranga pattana,* vulgarly *Shrîrang patan* (শ্রীরঙ্গ an epithet of Vishnu and পত্তন a town) A city in the Province of Mysore of which it was the capital during the short-lived dynasty of Hyder.—(See Hamilton.)

(31) পাদ্রি *Pādri,* from Portuguese *Padre,* a Priest.

(32) আশ্রম *Āshram,* (Sanscrit.) A college, a school, a hermitage, a religious order or grade, of which there are four, viz: the student, the householder, the anchorite, and the mendicant, আঙ prefix of extension and শ্রম to perform religious austerities, affix ঘঞ্— where religious austerities are extensively performed.

connected with their religious tenets. Doctor Carey, who had come to India six years prior to this and was residing at Maldah, (33) came speedily and joined the above. These three persons, thus associated, began to exert themselves vigorously in the dissemination of the Christian religion in India. They immediately set up a printing establishment, (34) and, through the instrumentality of the Native who had assisted in the manufacture of the Bengallee types of Mr. Charles Wilkins, they began to prepare a fount (35) of each of nearly all the Native Alphabets. A. D. 1799.

22. These persons, having printed the *Mahābhārat*, the *Rāmāyan* and several other books, began to promote the study of the Bengallee language. They commenced translating the Bible into Bengallee, Sanscrit and many other Indian tongues. They were the first to establish Bengallee schools on European models. Far from looking for any profit from these undertakings, which they carried out with excessive labor, they, on the contrary, applied to the promotion of these objects the large incomes which they had of their own. It must indeed be admitted, that these persons promoted the interests (36) of the Bengallee language to such a degree as had never before been effected by any other person; and it may further be said, that the improvement of the con-

(33) মালদহ *Māldaha,* Name of a Town in the province of Bengal, district of Dinagepore, which in 1808, independent of Nuwaubgange, contained about 3,000 houses, seven-eighths of which were built with stones and bricks from the neighbouring ruins of Gour.—(See Hamilton's Gazetteer.)

(34) ছাপাখানা *Chāpā khānā,* (Hindee, Persian, چھاپے خانه *Chāpe-khāna.*) a Printing office (H. ছাপা Impression, stamp, print, and خانه a house.)

(35) সাট *Shāt,* from English "Set."

(36) সৌভাগ্য *Saobhāgya,* (Sanscrit.) Good fortune, auspiciousness, (সুভগ fortunate, auspicious, affix ষ্ণ্য)

A. D. 1800. dition of this country, and the dawn of its civilization, first originated at Serampore.

23. Lord Wellesley, seeing the Civil Servants extremely ignorant of the Native languages, established at Calcutta, in the year 1800, a College, styled the College of Fort William, into which all the Writers entered on their arrival from England in Calcutta, not being appointed to any office till they passed (37) an examination and received the Certificate of the Examiner. Excellent teachers were appointed, and many books in Bengallee and other languages were compiled and printed for the use of this College. This was a new expedient for improving the condition of the country. Mrityoonjoy Bidyālankār, (38) an excellent Pundit, a Native of Ootkul, (39) was appointed to the office of Head Pundit of the Bengallee and Sanscrit Department, and by his uncommon learning and wisdom greatly promoted the reputation of this College.

24. When the intelligence of the institution of this College reached the Court of Directors, they were pleased with it, but, on the grounds if its being on too large a scale, (40) and too expensive, (41) they directed that every department should be reduced. However, for a number

(37) Literally,—"As long as they did not pass, &c. so long they were not appointed &c."

(38) মৃত্যুঞ্জয় বিদ্যালঙ্কার *Mrityunjay Bidyālankār*, মৃত্যুঞ্জয় a name of Shiva (মৃত্য Death and জয় who conquers) বিদ্যালঙ্কার The ornament of learning. This is one of the titles bestowed in Bengal upon students at the completion of their course, Other examples are তর্কালঙ্কার, ন্যায়রত্ন, বিদ্যাসাগর &c. &c.

(39) উত্কল *Utkal.* Name of a country in the south of India, part of Orissa.

(41) প্রকাণ্ড *Prakānda,* (Sanscrit.) Best, excellent, happy, (in Bengallee), stout, strong, tall, stupendous.

(41) বহুব্যয়সাধ্য *Bāhu byaya sādhya,* (Sanscrit.) Attainable or accomplishable with much expence, (বহু much, ব্যয় expence, সাধ্য attainable, accomplishable.)

of years excellently taught pupils were sent forth from this College, and all the Native languages were there eminently studied. If we were called on to enumerate the first means by which the study and adornment of the Bengallee language were advanced, we must mention the establishment of the Missionaries at Serampore, and the foundation of the College of Fort William. In this College Doctor Carey was Professor of the Bengallee language. A. D. 1803.

25. In the year 1803 Lord Wellesley was necessitated to enter upon hostilities with Scindia and Holkar; but this contest was speedily terminated, and these two powerful chiefs (42) were therein conquered and humbled. At last a great portion of their dominions was annexed to the empire of the English. In September the English first gained possession of Delhi, the ancient capital of the Moosulmans. The Mahrattas had greatly oppressed the Sovereign of Delhi. The latter was now restored to the dignity of Emperor, under the protection of the English; but he retained no authority, and was allowed merely to draw an annual stipend of fifteen lakhs of Rupees.

26. At that period disputes having arisen with the Rajah of Nagpore, (43) Lord Wellesley immediately

(42) সামন্ত *Sāmanta*, (Sanscrit.) The chief of a district, a neighbour, a leader, a captain, a champion, attendant or companion of a chieftain (সমন্ত end, term, and ষ্ণ affix of relation).

(43) নাগপুর *Nāgpur*, (Sanscrit.) (*Nāgapura*, the town of the serpent), a Mahratta kingdom in the Deccan, formerly of great extent but much limited since 1818. The general situation is between 18° 40′ and 20° 40 N. Latitude, and 78° 20′ and 83° E. longitude. The E. and S. E. quarters are particularly mountainous, and inhabited by wild tribes, chiefly *Gonds*.—(See Hamilton.)

A. D. 1803. despatched troops to Orissa. (44) The Mahrattas having given way in battle, (45) the English troops gained possession of the temple of Juggernauth (46) on the 18th of September 1803. And the whole province of Orissa was annexed to Bengal. Forty-eight years previous to this, Aliverdi Khan had, in the last year of his Government, made over this country to the Mahrattas. The English displayed much kindness and respect towards the priests (47) of Pooree, and desired them to conduct according to their own discretion, as before, the collection and expenditure of the Revenue, and the other affairs connected with that town; but after three years, with the view of increasing the tax, they assumed themselves the superintendence of the temple, and began to collect the tax with the instrumentality of their own people. Only a

(44) উড়িষ্যা *Urishyā* A large province in the Deccan, extending from the 18th to the 23rd degree of North latitude. *Ordesa* or *Oresa*, the peculiar country of the *Or* or *Odra* tribe, had originally less extended limits; but in the progress of Emigration and conquest, the Ooria nation carried their name and language over a vast space of territory, both on the sea-shore and among the hills, including, besides Orissa Proper, a portion of Bengal and Telingana The modern extent of the Orissa Province may be roughly estimated at 400 miles in length, by about 70 the average breadth; but Orissa Proper has much more limited dimensions, and may be considered wholly comprehended in the British district of Cuttack.—(See Hamilton.)

(45) ভঙ্গ *Bhanga*. (Sanscrit.) A breaking, splitting, division, defect (ভঞ্জ্ to break, affix ঘঞ্)

(46) জগন্নাথ *Jagannāth*, A celebrated place of Hindoo worship on the sea coast of Orissa, district of Cuttack, esteemed the most sacred of all their establishments. The town Juggernauth is also called Puri (the town) and Purushottam (the Supreme soul, a name of Vishnu) (জগৎ the world and নাথ Lord. "The lord of the world," one of the 1,000 names of Vishnu, the Preserving Power.—See Hamilton).

(47) পুরোহিত *Purohit* (Sanscrit) The family priest conducting all the ceremonials and sacrifices of a family (পুরস্ first and হিত held or esteemed).

portion of these collections were applied to the service of the idol, and the whole of the remainder was paid in to the Company's treasury. D. A. 1803.

27. It had been for a long time the custom, that parents used to proceed, accompanied by their children, to Gungasagur, (48) and, after repetition of incantations (49) and performance of worship, (50) there to cast those young ones into the waters of the ocean. They indeed considered this proceeding as an act of piety, but it is nowhere enjoined in the sacred books. On the 20th of August 1802, the Governor General passed a Regulation for the purpose of at once putting a stop to this practice, and despatched a body of troops to enforce it.

28. By the passing of this Regulation interference was openly established in the religious affairs of this country; still not one individual throughout the whole uttered a sound. (51) The people of this country had so entirely forgotten this matter, that when, twenty-five

(48) গঙ্গাসাগর *Gangā-sāgara* (Sanscrit.) An island (commonly called "Saugor Island") belonging to the Province of Bengal, situated on the East side of the Hooghly river. It is a celebrated place of pilgrimage among the Hindoos, on account of the great sanctity arising from its situation at the junction of the holiest branch of the Ganges with the Ocean (*Gangā*, the Ganges, and *Sāgara* the Ocean. "the confluence of the Ganges with the Ocean."—See Hamilton.)

(49) মন্ত্র *Mantra*, (Sanscrit.) 1. Secret consultation, private advice. 2. A division of the Vedas. 3. A mystical verse or incantation (in the Tantras) 4. A formula sacred to any individual deity, as *Om, Vishnave nama, Om,* "to Vishnu salutation!" *Om, Sivāya nama, Om,* "to Siva salutation;" &c. (Root মন্ত্র্ to advise or consult privately, affix অচ্.

(50) পূজা *Pūjā* (Sanscrit.) Worship, culture, homage of superiors or adoration of the gods (Root পূজ্ to worship; affix অঙ্ of the action, and টাপ্ of the feminine gender.)

(51) রা *Rā* (Sanscrit.) A sound (Root রৈ to sound, affix ক্বিপ্ not used in Sanscrit.)

A. D. 1805. years after, on the prohibition of the Suttee, (52) it was adduced as an argument, the greater part denied that it was ever in force.

29. In our annals of India the time of Lord Wellesley's Government is specially a period of great prosperity. By the wars in which he was unavoidably engaged he encreased this empire nearly one-third, and he also augmented the revenue by fifteen crores and forty lakhs of Rupees. But along with the increase of the revenue the debt had also steadily accumulated. The Directors evinced the utmost dissatisfaction with this warlike propensity of his, and they were extremely anxious to devise some expedient by which the Government of the country might be carried on conjointly with the preservation of peace: nay they were willing even to renounce a portion of the advantages which they had gained by all these wars; but it had not ever yet entered into their minds, that they would be all in all in India or nothing. In a word, they had become so highly dissatisfied, that at length they brought charges against Lord Wellesley as a violator of Acts of Parliament.

30. Lord Wellesley perceived that the Directors no longer placed confidence in him, and having answered their letter, he resolved on resigning his office, and at the end of the year 1805 he embarked on board a ship, for the purpose of proceeding to England. On his arrival there, the leading members of Parliament and other persons brought charges against him, as they had done against

(52) সহগমন *Sahagaman*, (Sanscrit.) 1. Going with, accompanying. 2. A woman's burning herself on the funeral pile with her deceased husband, (সহ "With" and গমন "Going.") When the husband has died abroad and the widow burns herself with his staff or some portion of his clothing, the rite is called *Anugaman*, Going after, following. (The word *Satī* সতী is the epithet given to the widow in both cases, being the feminine of সৎ *Sat*, True, good, virtuous, firm; and it is improperly applied to the rites abovementioned.)

Clive and Hastings, but the accusations were not of so grave a nature: at any rate this was his worthy recompence, for having so greatly extended the empire, whilst pursuing a deep laid policy, followed every where by uninterrupted victory. A. D. 1805.

31. Amongst the charges brought against him in Parliament, that of Lord Moira was most surprising. He loudly declared in the House of Lords that all the victories gained by Wellesley were unjust and contrary to the decrees of Parliament, and yet within ten years he himself, having become Governor General of India, engaged in more extensive wars than Lord Wellesley himself. The fact is that those persons who have never resided amongst the natives of India, and had dealings with them, cannot comprehend the depths of Indian politics.

32. The Directors then resolved, that it was proper to submit even to some loss for the purpose of establishing peace, and reducing the expenditure. Consequently they selected Lord Cornwallis as the new Governor General. He was then much advanced in years; still he agreed to their proposal, and embarking on board a ship, arrived in Calcutta on the 30th of July in the year 1805. Without delay he proceeded to the Western frontier, with the view of making peace with the rulers of the other portions of India: but the further he advanced westward the more he began by degrees to become infirm in body. At length, having reached Ghazeepore, (53) he expired on the 5th of October of the same year. When the

(53) গাজীপুর *Gājīpur*. (A. S. غازيپور *Ghāzīpur*, the city of the *Ghāzī*, or fighter against Infidels.) A very large town in the province of Allahabad, and capital of a district of the same name, situated on the N. side of the Ganges, forty-one miles N. E. from Benares. The Mausoleum erected here to the memory of the Marquis Cornwallis is entirely of Chunar free-stone, without the intervention of any wood: it cost one lakh of Rupees, and consumed 15 years in erection; yet it appears an insignificant structure when compared with the

A. D. 1807. news of his decease reached England, the Directors, to testify their regard for him, bestowed on his son a donation of four Lakhs of Rupees.

33. The chief Member of Council, Sir George Barlow, was immediately installed (54) in the office of Governor General. The Directors had a great desire to appoint him to this high station, but the King's Ministers declared that it was their right to appoint to this office. Much discussion arose on this question: at length the whole was decided by the appointment of Lord Minto to the post of Governor General. During the rule of Sir George Barlow, the Government resolved (55) to collect the tax from the Pilgrims to Juggernauth, (56) and to take into their own hands the management of the temple. Numerous plans were adopted for increasing the number of pilgrims, whereby the revenue of the Government was much augmented. The arrangement which was then made remained in force for about thirty years.

34. Lord Minto landed in Calcutta on the 31st of July 1807. He conducted the Government till the end of the year 1813. In that period no particular change occurred in the politial affairs of Bengal, except that a new arrangement, on a more stringent rule than before, was introduced in the Custom duties. (57) Lord Cornwallis had, in the year 1788, abolished this rule before his departure. It was afterwards again put in force in the year 1801. In this way the revenue was augmented;

meanest of the sepulchral edifices left by the Mogul Emperors.—(See Hamilton.)

(54) প্রতিষ্ঠিত *Pratishthita.* (Sanscrit.) Established, consecrated. (প্রতিষ্ঠা Establishment &c. affix ইতচ)

(55) মানস *Mānas.* (Sanscrit.) A volition, thought, wish.

(56) শ্রীক্ষেত্র *Shrīkhyetra.* (Sanscrit.) A name of Jagannathpuri.

(57) পঞ্চোত্তরা *Panchottarā.* (Sanscrit?)—Inland duty on merchandise (পঞ্চন্ Five, and উত্তর Beyond? See Carey's Bengalee Dictionary.)

but great injury accrued to commerce, and extreme oppression began to fall on the people. In the year 1810, the English, after defeating the French, gained possession of the two Islands of Bourbon and Mauritius. The next year the rich island of Java also was wrested from the hands of the Dutch. A. D. 1813.

35. In the year 1813, the period of the Charter which the Company had received from the Parliament twenty years before, having expired, a new Charter was accepted. On this occasion they had to change several of the rules for the management of the affairs of the country. For two hundred years previous to this the Company alone in England, had the privilege of trading with India. They had at first commenced to transact business by opening a Counting House, now they had ascended the throne of the Government of India, and it must be considered, that it is unbecoming for the head of a state to engage in commerce. On the introduction of the new arrangement at this time the duty of government remained in the hands of the Company, and the right of trade was extended to other merchants. Of course the difficulty which other Europeans besides the Company's Officers used to experience in obtaining leave to come to India was removed, and those persons to whom the Directors did not choose to give permission, began to attain their object by applying to the Board of Control.

36. On the 4th of October, 1813, Lord Minto transferred the burden of the government of India to the hands of Lord Moira, and departed for England; but his death occurred before he reached his home. The title of Lord Moira was eventually changed to Marquis of Hastings.

CHAPTER XIX.

A. D. 1813.

1. Lord Hastings on assuming the reins (1) of Government perceived that the Nepaulese (2) were gradually encroaching on the territory belonging to the English. The Royal family which occupied the throne, had, in the course of a hundred years, established their sovereignty in Nepaul, and extended their territory by conquests in war. During the period of Lord Minto's rule a number of disputes had arisen. Lord Hastings saw that a war with the ruler of Nepaul had become inevitable. He used his utmost endeavours to preserve peace; but observing the intolerable arrogance of the sovereign of Nepaul, he was at length obliged, in the year 1814, to commence hostilities. The first campaign was not attended with any results; but in the engagements of 1815, the English Commander, Ochterlony, was eminently victorious: and the King of Nepaul was then obliged to purchase peace at the cost of a large portion of his territories.

2. There dwelt in the central portion of India a numerous body of mounted robbers, named Pindarries, who had for many years made the plunder of the country in that direction their means of subsistence. They at length entered the dominions of the English. Many of the Rajahs and chieftains of that portion of the country

(1) Literally, "The load or burthen."

(2) নেপালীয় *Nepālīya.* An inhabitant of Nepaul, a kingdom of Northern Hindoostan, which, although greatly curtailed of its modern usurpations to the East and West, by the peace of 1815, still remains one of the largest and most compact independent sovereignties of India. It is situated between the 27th and 31st degrees of North latitude, and in extreme length may be estimated at 460 miles, by 115, the average breadth.—(See Hamilton).

used to afford them every assistance, and their depredations extended further than five hundred coss. The English had to maintain a force to repel them. The expence which thus began to be yearly incurred being felt very onerous, it was considered at length as strongly dictated by reason and policy, that it would be better by one great effort to exterminate them at once, than to continue the existing mode of proceeding. A. D. 1817.

3. Accordingly Lord Hastings, having obtained the permission of the Court of Directors, issued orders for collecting a numerous force from the three Presidencies. The troops having by degrees invested the abodes of these infamous (3) robbers, annihilated, one by one, all their parties.

4. Whilst the armies of the English, being engaged with the Pindarries, were still occupied in the battle field, the Peshwa,(4) the Rajah of Nagpore and Holkar, (5) being all of one counsel, at once rose in hostility to the English, in the hope that, if all made one united effort, they would be able to drive the English from the country, but they were all defeated. The Peshwa and the Rajah of Nagpore were dethroned, and a great portion of their territories were taken possession of by the English. The Marquis of Hastings himself conducted the whole of this affair; but ten years previously he had cried out against the policy of the Marquis of Wellesley on account of a similar war. At the time of the above transactions he was sixty-five years of age, and yet he fully displayed

(3) দুর্বৃত্ত *Durbritta.* (Sanscrit.) Leading a low or infamous life, following a disreputable business or habits, vile, wicked, a cheat, blackguard, &c.

(4) পেশোয়া *Peshwā* (Pers.) A leader, guide; title of the Marhatta minister.

(5) হোলকার *Holkār.* Title of a Marhatta Chief whose capital is Indore.

A. D. 1817. all the judgment and energy which were necessary for the accomplishment of affairs of such eminent importance. The power of the Pindarries and Marhattas was altogether annihilated, and the English became supreme in India.

5. Before the rule of Lord Hastings, no endeavour was made to bestow instruction on the people. Previously it had been considered impolitic to educate the people, because as long as they remained plunged in the abyss of ignorance (6) there remained no apprehension at any time of the subversion of the Government. But Lord Hastings rejecting this conclusion, declared that the English had established their rule in India for the benefit of the Native people, whose civilization it was, therefore, their duty by every effort to carry out. From his time a new and different era dawned upon India. In various places schools began to be established, and this was the first effort for the instruction of the natives.

6. On the 29th of May 1818, the first Bengalee News paper was published at the Serampore Press, (7) with the title of "Sumachar Durpun."(8) Lord Hastings received a copy as a present. He was not alarmed at the sight of this new channel (9) for the instruction of the people; but, on the contrary, he immediately carried it to the Council, and issued this order, that in every case when this Journal should have to be sent by post, not more than one-fourth of the usual charge should be demanded.

7. At this time W. B. Baillie and Doctor Carey exerted themselves, and with the concurrence of Lady Hastings, established in Calcutta the "Calcutta School-book Society," and at the same period a body named the "School

(6) Literally, "fallen into the well of ignorance."

(7) যন্ত্রালয় *Jantrāloy* (Sanscrit.) Literally "A Machine House."

(8) সমাচার দর্পন *Samāchār Darpan.* (Sanst.) The mirror of news, (সমাচার Information, tradition, news, and দর্পন a mirror.)

(9) প্রনালী *Pranālī* (Sanscrit.) A water course.

Society" for the instruction of native children was formed in the capital. The Reverend Mr. May founded large Schools for the education of native youths in Bengallee near Chinsurah, and the Missionaries of Serampore, established a Seminary near that place: and the Hindoo College, in which thousands of youths have been instructed in the English language and European philosophy, (10) was also instituted at that period by Sir Edward Hyde East, Mr. J. H. Harrington, and Mr. David Hare. A. D. 1818.

8. All men, both Europeans and Natives, were benefited by the noble disposition of the Marquis of Hastings. Before this no one had even dreamed that there would be seminaries of learning in this country; but he established them, and displayed the utmost generosity in his efforts for their preservation and advancement.

9. In the month of January of the year 1823 Lord Hastings quitted India. He, in the space of nine years, had, with much labor, greatly extended the Company's territory, and increased their revenue, and had paid off their debt. Never was the prosperity of the Indian Empire of the English observed to stand at so high a pitch. The treasury was full of money, and after the payment of all expences there began to appear a yearly surplus (11) of nearly two Crores of Rupees.

10. Mr. George Canning, a very talented Royal minister, having for a long period filled the Office of Superintendent of the Board of Control, had become perfectly acquainted with the affairs of the Government of India. On the retirement of Lord Hastings this person was appointed to the office of Governor General.

(10) দর্শন শাস্ত্র *Darshana shāstra.* (Sanscrit.) The institutes of knowledge or understanding, a term applied to the various systems of philosohy.

(11) উদ্বৃত্ত *Udbritta* (Sanscrit.) Left, as a surplus or remainder. (উৎ Above, before the Root বৃৎ to be, remain, affix ক্ত)

A. D. 1823. 11. When all the preparations had been made for his coming out, a very important office fell vacant in England by the death of one of the Royal ministers, and he was chosen for that post. The Directors then appointed Lord Amherst Governor General, and despatched him to India. This nobleman had ten years before gone to Pekin as the representative of the Sovereign of England. He arrived in Calcutta on the 1st of August 1823. During the few months which intervened between the departure of Lord Hastings, and the arrival of Lord Amherst, the Chief Member of the Council, Mr. John Adam, performed the duties of Governor General. The only affair of consequence which occurred during his rule was the abolition of the freedom of the press.

12. As soon as Lord Amherst arrived in Calcutta, he found that the inhabitants of the country of Burmah (12) had begun to commit flagrant outrages; it was therefore necessary to turn his attention without delay towards their correction. The existing Rajah of the country of Burmah had gained possession of the throne of Ava (13) at the very same period that the English had become masters of Bengal. After this, having conquered Munipore (14) and Assam (15), he became in consequence so

(12) ব্রহ্ম *Brahma.* An extensive and once powerful empire in the South-Eastern extremity of Asia, where, until the late war, it occupied, directly or influentially, almost half of the region described in maps as India beyond the Ganges.—(See Hamilton.)

(13) আবা *Āvā*, The ancient, and in recent times again, the modern, capital of the Burmese Empire, six miles South of Amarapura: lat. 21° 55′ N. lon. 96° E. The name is also applied to the whole empire.—(See Hamilton.)

(14) মণিপুর *Manipur.* (The Jewel town) A town of "India beyond the Ganges" and formerly the capital of the Cassay country, lat. 24° 20′ N. lon. 94° 30′ E.

(15) আসাম *Āshām.* This remote country adjoins the province of Bengal at the North-East corner, about the 91st degree of E. longi-

puffed up (16) with pride, that he resolved in his own mind that he would by degrees also conquer Bengal. Whilst peace still existed between him and the English he broke through it, and despatched his troops into Kachar (17) and Arracan (18), which were occupied by the Company. At the head of the Teak-Naaf River on the Arracan Coast is a small Island, named Shapooree (19). The Burmese monarch had invaded this, and destroyed the few guards whom the English had there, and when a messenger was sent to Ava to demand the reason of such a proceeding, he replied in a very arrogant style, that the island in question should remain under his authority, and if any thing were undertaken to the contrary he would invade Bengal. A. D. 1824.

13. With reference to these encroachments, the Governor General declared war against the Burmese King on the 5th of May 1824. On the 11th of May, the English having landed an Army in the Burmese territory,

tude, from whence it stretches in an easterly direction, to an undefined distance; but it is probable about the 96th degree of E. longitude it comes into contact with several barbarous and unknown tribes, who occupy the intervening space from thence to the province of Yunan in China. In this direction it follows the Brahmaputra, being, in fact, the valley through which that river flows.

(16) উদ্ধত *Uddhata.* (Sanscrit.) 1. Raised. 2. Excited. 3. Haughty, vain, puffed up, arrogant, rude.

(17) কাচার *Kāchār.*—More properly Hairumbo, a province to the North of Silhet and Tipperah and to the S. of Assam. Its Rajah is a dependent on the British protection, for which he pays 10,000 Rs. a year.—(See Hamilton.)

(18) আরাকান *Arākān.*—A maritime province of "India beyond the Ganges," It lies between 18° and 21° N. latitude, having Chittagong to the N, Bassein to the S. the Arracan mountains to the E. and the Bay of Bengal to the W.—(See Hamilton)

(19) শাপুরী *Shāpurī.* A worthless muddy isle, situated at the extreme point of the strip of main land forming the southern frontier of the Chittagong district.—(See Hamilton.)

A. D. 1825 took possession of the port (20) of Rangoon (21). Immediately afterwards, the countries of Assam and Arracan and the Coast of Mergui (22) fell into their hands. The Army of the English then advanced by degrees towards Ava, the capital, and, taking possession of numerous towns and villages in their progress, overthrew the troops of the Burmese Rajah at every step. At the commencement of the year 1826, the English force having arrived very near to Amerapoora (23), the Rajah, in order to preserve his capital, agreed to make peace on the terms proposed by the English. Accordingly a treaty of peace was prepared, which is well-known as the treaty of Yandaboo (24). By this, the Burmese monarch gave to the English, Manipore, Assam, Arracan, and the whole of the Martaban (25)

(20) বন্দর *Bandar*. (Persian) A port, harbour.

(21) রাঙ্গুন *Rāngun*. The principal seaport in the Burmese dominions, situated in the province of Pegu, on the N. Bank of the Rangoon branch of the Irawaddy about 28 miles above its debouchure into the gulf of Martaban, latitude 16° 35, N. latitude : 96°, 25′ E.

(22) মরগুই *Margui*. The modern capital of the Tenasserim province, situated in latitude 12°, 12′ N. and 98°, 25′ E.—(See Hamilton.)

(23) অমরাপুর *Amarāpur*. (Sanscrit). The city of Immortals.—A city of "India beyond the Ganges." and the capital of the Birman Empire during the reign of Minderajee Praw, by whom it was founded so recently as 1783, about six miles East of Ava, the ancient capital, but was literally abandoned by him, through some unaccountable caprice, for some sterile sand-banks seven miles further up the stream of the Irawaddy: latitude, 21°, 55′ N. longitude, 96° 7′ E.—(See Hamilton.)

(24) য়ান্দাবু *Yāndābu*. A town in the kingdom of Ava, forty-five miles W. S. W. from the city of Ava. On the arrival of Sir Archibald Cambell's army at this place, the treaty of peace was at last ratified by the Burmese monarch, on the 26th February, 1826.—(See Hamilton.)

(25 মার্ত্তাবান *Mārttabān*. A province comprehended between 17° 30′ and 15° 30′ N. containing about 12,000, miles, of which

Coast, and agreed to pay one Crore of Rupees, as compensation for the expenses of the war. A. D. 1825

14. During the time that the war with the Burmese was going on, there arose a disagreement with Doorjun Sāl, the chief of Bhurtpore, (26) who, in concert with his brother, Madhoo Singh, had formed designs for wresting the Government from the hands of Bulwunt Singh, the son of his paternal uncle and a minor (27). Sir Charles Metcalfe made many efforts to bring Doorjun Sāl to reason, but without effect. It then became evident that this question could not be settled without an appeal to arms, and that it was very important to capture this place. Lord Lake had laid siege to it in 1805; but there had been such a serious loss in soldiers and officers, that of all the towns which the English had hitherto besieged in India they had never been in such straights in any as in this case. The English were indeed unable to take the place; but the Rajah paid twenty lakhs of Rupees to pacify them. In fact, of all the fortified places which the English had attacked, this was the only one, which they had failed in subduing. Consequently it had become the common

about one half (the most fertile and populous) belong to the British; but the town of Martaban stands on the North or Burmese side of the Salwen. Three large rivers, the Salwen, the Gain, and the Athran, join opposite to Martaban, where they form an expanse of water six or seven miles broad.—(See Hamilton.)

(26) ভরতপুর *Bharatpur.* (The city of *Bharata.*) The capital of an independent Native chief in the province of Agra, 31 miles W. by N. from the city of Agra. The Rajah is one of the principal chieftains of the Jants, which are a tribe of low Sudras, who, presuming on their temporary importance, venture to assume the title of Khetri, the military caste. This city sustained and resisted a siege by the army under Lord Lake in the begining of 1805, but the Rajah considered it prudent to make terms.—(See Hamilton.)

(27) নাবালক *Nābālak,* (from نا *nā* Not and بالغ *Baligh,* arrived at years of maturity,) under lawful age to manage his own concerns.

A. D. 1826. talk throughout the whole of India, that the English would never be able to take this fortress. It was surrounded by a very large mud wall, at the foot of which was a capacious ditch.

15. Although a large force was at that time employed in the Burmese war, still twenty thousand men and one hundred cannon were speedily assembled before Bhurtpore. The whole of the people of India began to watch with the deepest anxiety this proceeding of theirs. On the 23d of December operations commenced, and on the 18th of January 1826, the Commander-in-Chief, Lord Combermere, gained possession of the place. Doorjun Sāl having fallen into the hands of the English, was sent into the fort of Allahabad. In consequence of the hostilities with Burmah and Bhurtpore, thirteen Crores of Rupees were added to the liabilities of Government.

16. In the year 1827 Lord Amherst, in his progress to the Western Provinces, arrived at Delhi. There, in the course of a conversation with the King, which happened to turn on the subject of the Company's Government, the Governor General plainly told him that the English were now no longer subject to the descendants of Tymoor, and that at present the regal throne of Hindoostan had fallen into their possession. The Royal family on hearing this circumstance were plunged in a sea of dejection. They reflected that they had indeed suffered endless kinds of degradation at the hands of the Mahrattas, but that still the title of King of Hindoostan was not interfered with; and that now they perceived that their claim to the Government had for ever departed from their hands. All the inhabitants of India were extremely dejected (28) at this circumstance.

(28) ক্ষুণ্ণ *Khyunna.* (Sanscrit.) 1. Bruised, pounded. 2. Defeated, overcome, 3. Sad, distressed, (Root ক্ষুদ্ to pound, reduce to powder, affix ক্ত of the past part :—form irregular.)

17. Lord Amherst made over the Government into the hands of Mr. William Butterworth Bayley, and took his departure for England in March 1828. When his intention to resign his office was known in England, Lord William Bentinck brought before the Court of Directors his claim to succeed to the appointment. Twenty years prior to this period he had been Governor of Madras; but the Directors being in some way irritated had unjustly recalled him. Now they admitted his claim on the present occasion, and appointed him Governor General in the year 1827. (29) It must be confessed, that at that time few men could have been found in England equally qualified for this important office. A. D. 1827.

18. This nobleman arrived in Calcutta on the 4th of July 1828. The Indian treasury which not six years before, in the time of Lord Hastings, had been brimful of wealth, was now almost altogether empty. The extent to which the debt had increased was terrific, and the expenses far exceeded the income. Lord William had pledged himself to the Directors that he would reduce the expenditure. Accordingly, on his arrival in Calcutta, he forthwith appointed two Committees on Revenue matters, whose duty was to enquire into the expenditure in the Civil and Military Departments and to point out any reductions that were feasible.

19. By their counsel the expenditure was curtailed in every department. Such proceedings were of course sure to give rise to universal dislike. For obeying the orders of the Court of Directors in every where enforcing economy, Lord William experienced much vituperation at the hands of those who suffered. And, in fact, no public servant who has to undertake the duty of reducing the public expenditure, can ever hope for the approval of his contemporaries. All men tumultuously rose up

(29) The Bengallee has 1826, but this is a mistake.

A. D. 1829. against him on every side: but he was neither ruffled nor staggered, and only continued to devise plans for economizing and paying off the debt.

20. The Government had for some time been inclined to put a stop to the rite of *Sahagaman*; (30) and consequently many enquiries had been instituted as to the number of women who perished with their husbands, and as to the feelings of the Natives on this subject. Many Government Officers asserted that the Natives were strongly attached to this rite, and that its abolition might be attended with bad consequences. When Lord William Bentinck arrived in Calcutta he maturely considered this subject, and saw it might easily be abolished, in which opinion all the members of the Supreme Council concurred.

21. A law was then passed, on the 4th of December 1829, by which this cruel practice was at once abolished throughout the English territories. Several wealthy and respectable Bengallees took offence at this beneficial measure, and presented a petition to the Governor General praying for the abrogation (31) of this law, on the plea that it was an interference with their religion. Lord William refused their petition, after showing various most cogent reasons for the abolition of the rite, and at last, he explained to the petitioners, that although it was necessary to put a stop to a practice which was the cause of the death of many individuals yearly, still there was in this no intention to interfere with the rules of their religion.

(30) সহগমন *Sahagaman* (Sanscrit.) A going with, accompanying; the rite of a woman's burning herself with the dead body of her husband. *Suttee* is a corruption of *Satī*, which is the feminine of *Sat* "virtuous, pure": this term is applied to the widow who burns with her husband, and its application to the rite abovementioned is a gross error.

(31) রদ *Rad.* (Ar. رد *Radd.*) Rejection, refutation.

22. At this time Dwārakanāth Thākur, Kālīnāth Rae Chowdhari, and other respectable Bengallees presented a laudatory address to Lord William, the drift of which was, that they were obliged to His Lordship for this act of mercy, and offered him their thanks. The advocates of the rite of Sahagaman immediately established a Dharma Shabhā (Religious Society) in Calcutta, and having raised a large sum by subscription (32) despatched a European attorney to England, to present a petition to the Privy Council for the re-establishment of the rite. But there the Royal Ministers, after hearing all the arguments in favor of Sahagaman, at length upheld the party in favor of its suppression. It is now, 1838, nine years since that rite was abolished, and as yet not the least sign of dissatisfaction has appeared on the part of the people; in fact all have nearly forgotten the bloody custom, and if it be not recorded in history, future generations will hardly believe that such a custom ever prevailed. A. D. 1831.

23. In the year 1831 a great change was originated in the system of Courts of Justice. Up to this period Natives had been appointed on trifling salaries for the trial of small cases. Lord William Bentinck determined, with the view of raising the credit of the Natives, to appoint them to important posts with high salaries. In this year the salaries and powers of Moonsiffs and Sudder Ameens were increased, and in addition several individuals were appointed to a new advanced grade of Principal Sudder Ameens, on still higher salaries. These were invested with extensive powers in Civil cases.

24. The office of Register and the provincial Courts were abolished, and only the Courts of Native Judges and of Zillah Judges and the Sudder Dewany Adalut were retained. This new regulation has now been in force for

(32) চাঁদা *Chāndā.* (Hindee, चन्दा *Chandā.*) Assessment, contribution, subscription.

A. D. 1831. eight years. The upshot of it is, that the first hearing and decision of causes has been entrusted to Native Judges, and English Judges are called on only to hear appeals.

25. Lord William also introduced several reforms in the Criminal Courts. Previously the Circuit Judges used to hold Sessions once in six months; then the Commissioners once in three months. At last, it was ordered that the Civil and Sessions Judge should sit once every month. Thus the annoyance which prisoners and witnesses were subjected to by a long detention (33) was, in a great degree, obviated. In a word, it is impossible, in our limited space, to detail all the improvements which were introduced during the government of the talented Lord Wiliam Bentinck. At any rate, the great object of them all was that the character of the Natives might be elevated, and the public business efficiently performed.

26. In the year 1831, Rajah Rammohun Roy proceeded to England. So learned a man had not for many a day been seen in Bengal. By caste he was a Brahmun, and he had filled many respectable offices under the Company. He was a proficient (34) in four languages, namely, Sanskrit, Bengallee, Persian, and English, and his mind was enlightened by the variety of knowledge which he had acquired. He had made the utmost (35) efforts to turn away his countrymen from the adoration of the gods and goddesses, and to convert them to the worship of

(33) কয়েদ *Kayed.* (Ar : قيد *Qaid.*) A fetter, imprisonment, obstacle.

(34) মূর্ত্তিমন্ত *Mūrttimanta.* (Sanscrit. মূর্ত্তিমান) Possessing a bodily shape, embodied: q. d. he was those languages embodied, he was thoroughly versed in them.

(35) অশেষ *Ashesh* (Sanscrit) Entire, whole, without remainder.

the Supreme Bruhm (36) who is set forth (37) in the Vedas. (38) Strange to say that his countrymen, although they continue to conduct the ceremonies of their faith according to the ritual (39) of the Vedas, still used to call him a heretic. Yet even those from whom he differed in opinion, gave him credit for his uncommon qualities, and were proud of their country because it had given him birth. A. D. 1831.

27. We have already mentioned, that in the time of Lord Amherst, the imperial supremacy of the House of Tymoor had been set aside. Now the Emperor, desirous of regaining his lost dignity, having determined on an appeal to England, appointed Raja Rammohun Roy his representative. In ancient times, the Natives of India incurred no reproach or impurity from undertaking a voyage to sea; but now, in the *Kali* age, any person travelling by ship must suffer loss of caste. (40) However

(36) ব্রহ্ম *Brahma.* (Sanscrit.) The divine cause and essence of the world, from which all created things are supposed to emanate, and to which they return.—(Wilson's Sanscrit Dictionary.)

(37) প্রতিপাদ্য *Pratipādya.* (Sanscrit.) (The object which is) to be explained or demonstrated.

(38) বেদ *Beda* (Properly *Veda*) (Sanscrit.) The generic term for the Sacred Writings or Scripture of the *Hindus;* supposed to have been revealed by Brahmā and after being preserved by tradition for a considerable period, to have been arranged in the present form by Vysāa. The principal Vedas are three, *Rich, Yajush,* and *Sāma,* to which a fourth, the *Atharva,* is usually added, and the *Itihāsa* and *Purānas,* or ancient history and mythology, are sometimes considered as a fifth.

(39) বিধি *Bidhi.* (Sanscrit.) 1. A sacred precept, an act or rite prescribed by the *Vedas* for effecting certain consequences. 2. Rule, form, formula.

(40) The Vrihannārada Sanhitā forbids the following practices in the *Kali* age. 1. Travelling by sea. 2. Carrying a waterpot (by a student.) 3. The marriage of men of the twice born (the three chief) castes with women of other castes. 4. The procreation of a son on

A. D. 1833. Raja Rammohun Roy, utterly disregarding (41) the reproaches of his countrymen, proceeded to England, and on his arrival there experienced the highest distinctions.

28. The purpose of this voyage of his was not accomplished. The British Government would not agree to restore the supremacy of the house of Tymoor which had been a pensioner on its bounty for thirty years ; but Rammohun Roy succeded in gaining its consent to an increase of three lakhs of Rupees in the stipend fixed for this family. He died (42) before returning to his own country, and was interred in a burial ground (43) near the city of Bristol.

29. In this our history the year 1833 is most notorious. The houses of merchants which had been going on for about fifty years began to fail. (44) The first, that of Palmer and Company, was closed in 1830. Five more

the widow of a deceased brother. 5. The slaying of an animal to entertain a guest. 6. The repast on flesh meat at funeral obsequies. 7. Entrance into the third order, or that of hermit. 8. The second gift of a married girl, whose husband had died before consummation. 9. A studentship continued for a long time. 10. The sacrifice of a man, 11. Or of a horse. 12. The great journey, that is, entering the Himālaya mountains to perish there of hunger, cold, &c. after the performance of one's own funeral obsequies, and 13. The sacrifice of oxen. The prohibition of these practices establishes their previous existence and prevalence.

(41) Literally,—"Not having cast his eyebrow."

(42) Literally,—" He folded up the movement (or actions) of his body."

(43) সমাধি ক্ষেত্র *Samādhi Khyetra.* (Sanscrit.) A burial field, a grave field. Among the Hindus the practice of burying the dead is confined to the *Jugîs,* a class of weavers, and the *Voirāgîs,* mendicant *Voishnavas.* (See " Ward on the History, Literature, and Mythology of the Hindus.")

(44) দেউলিয়া *Deuliyā* (Bengallee.) A Bankrupt (also দেউলি, perhaps from the Lamp festival at the new moon of Kartik, called *Deuli,* (in Hindee *Dīwālī*) when the night, in Hindoostan Proper, is is universally spent in *gambling.*)

firms carried on their business for three or four years, but at last they also became bankrupt. Sixty Crores of Rupees, belonging to the public, was, in consequence, lost, and less than two Crores have been recovered from the assets of the bankrupts. A. D. 1833.

30. The former term(45) having expired, the Honorable Company, in the year 1833, received a new Charter for twenty years. By this many changes were introduced into the rules for governing the country. The Company were obliged to give up all connexion with commerce in India, and to sell all their factories, and they were required to abandon even their trade with China, which during the previous twenty years had been their only resource. In fact they were obliged to withdraw at once from the commercial pursuits which they had regularly carried on for two hundred and thirty years, and to confine themselves to the occupation of governing India: and it was also enacted that the Shareholders in the capital of the Indian trade should annually receive the sum of sixty-five Lakhs from the Revenues of India; an arrangement which fully deserved the universal (46) reprobation which it received.

31. A Legislative Council was ordered to be established in Calcutta, to be constituted of the regular members of

(45) মিয়াদ *Miyād* (Arabic, ميعاد *Mīād.*) 1. Time or place of a promise. 2. A fixed time or period.

(46) ব্রাহ্মাণ্ড *Brahmānda.* (Sanscrit.) The Mundane Egg, the universe (ব্রাহ্ম *Brahma* and অণ্ড an egg, See "*Manu-sanhitā.*" Chap. I, verses 8 and 9. "He (*Brahmā*) having willed to produce various beings, from his own divine substance, first with a thought created the waters, and placed in them a productive seed: That seed became an egg, bright as gold, blazing like the luminary with a thousand beams (the Sun); and in that egg he was born himself in the form of *Brahmā* the Great Forefather of all spirits." Again, verse 13. "And from its two divisions he framed the heaven above and the earth beneath: in the midst he placed the subtil ether, the eight regions, and the permanent receptacle of waters.")

A. D. 1835. Council, with an additional member not in the Company's Service. The duty of this new Council was to enact laws for the whole of India, and to control and regulate the Supreme Court. A body was established styled the Law Commission, for preparing legislative enactments. The Governor General was invested with a supreme control over the whole of India, and the other Presidencies were placed under his authority. The Bengal Presidency was divided into the Calcutta and Agra Presidencies. These were the principal changes introduced by the new Charter.

32. Lord William Bentinck, in exerting himself for the promotion of knowledge among the people, gave special encouragement to the acquirement of English knowledge. The Parliament had decreed that one Lakh of Rupees from the Revenue should be appropriated to the education of the people. Nearly the whole of that sum used to be spent upon the cultivation (47) of Sanscrit and Arabic learning, although these were not of such great utility (48) to the people. Lord William Bentinck considered, that there would be greater advantage in the study of the English language, and he expended in the establishment of English Schools a much larger sum than that assigned by Parliament. He at the same time likewise issued an order, that when those scholars of the Sanscrit and Arabic Colleges, who were in the receipt of monthly stipends, should leave those institutions, the allowance should not be granted to new ones in their place. By various such like means the cultivation of the English language was promoted throughout the country.

33. Lord William bestowed a great boon on the country by founding in Calcutta, at a great expense, a Medical College, for the purpose of instructing the Natives in

(47) অনুশীলন *Anushīlan,* (Sanscrit.) Attention, study, close pursuit of any art or science. (অনু After : and শীলন consideration, meditation.)

(48) Literally,—"Were not of such assistance in business."

the Medical Science (49) of Europe. Separate professors were appointed for the several sciences necessary to be studied for the perfection of the students in Surgery and other branches of the healing art. (50) There is no calculating the benefits that have accrued from the establishment of this College. A. D. 1835.

34. In the time of Lord William Bentinck a Savings' Bank was established, for the purpose of enabling every one to accumulate his small savings ; and the result fully effected the object proposed. His Lordship also turned his attention to the Transit duties. It had long been the custom, that all goods transported from one part of the country to another had to pay duty ; and accordingly a Custom-house (51) was established on each channel of comunication, both by land and water, where several officers were appointed to stop and examine (52) all goods. The Government thus raised a revenue even at the expense of commerce ; and the appointed officers, for every Rupee they collected for the state, took two Rupees for themselves. In fact, they had commenced such a system of cruel oppression on the people, that a talented European officer employed in this department had justly denominated it a curse (53).

(49) আয়ুর্ব্বিদ্যা *Āyurbidyā*, also আয়ুর্বেদ *Āyurbed.* (Sanscrit.) The Science of Medicine, the collective writings of authority on medicine (আয়ুস্ Age, duration of life and বিদ্যা Knowledge.)

(50) চিকিৎসা *Chikitsā.* (Sanscrit.) Healing, curing, the practice of Medicine (Root কিৎ to cure, to administer remedies অস্ত্রচিকিৎসা Instrument, curing, surgery.

(51) পরমিটের ঘর *Parmiter ghar.* A house for (granting,) permits, or passes for goods.

(52) তদারক *Tadārak* (Ar: تدارک *Tadāruk.* Comprehending obtaining, remedying) Investigation, examination.

(53) অভিসম্পাত *Abhisampāt* (Sanscrit.) A curse, imprecation, war, devastation, (অভি and সম্ Particles of intensity, before the Root পৎ to fall, affix ঘঞ্ d. that which falls heavily.)

A. D. 1835. 35. This system prevailed when the Government was taken from the Moosulmans by the English, and the latter had allowed it to go on to this time. The discreminating Lord Cornwallis, considering this system injurious to the country, at once abolished it in the year 1788, and closed every Custom-house throughout the land. Thirteen years after, the Governnent, being desirous of striking out new paths for the raising of Revenue, revived this system of duties. Lord William Bentinck now directed Mr. C. E. Trevelyan, a Bengal Civil Servant, narrowly to enquire into, and report upon, this subject. He then appointed a Committee to devise the best means for removing this Tax. And although this system was not abolished during the rule of this nobleman, still he may be considered worthy of endless honor as the originator of the measure.

36. Lord William Bentinck, from the commencement of his Government, was very zealous in the promotion of Steam Navigation, both inland and by sea. He spared no pains to effect the monthly transmission of news, &c. between England and India; but the Directors threw many impediments in the way; and they censured him most severely for having employed a vessel named the "*Hugh Lindsay*" to carry packets between Bombay and Suez. However this nobleman prevailed upon them to sanction the employment of Iron Steamers in all the rivers of Bengal and the Western Provinces. This measure has proved so beneficial to both Europeans and Natives, that it has been found necessary to double the number of vessels employed; and it appears likely that in the course of time, this system will become as necessary and as universal in this country, as it is in England and America.

37. The administration of Lord William Bentinck closed in the year 1835, and throughout its duration no anxiety was experienced from war: peace and tranquillity were not disturbed for a single day. The whole

period had been devoted solely to promoting the prosperity of the people. However it will be impossible accurately to define the extent of the benefits bestowed on the country during his rule, until the fruits of his measures have fully developed themselves. In some of his enactments there has indeed appeared a want of judgment: still his administration will for ages be recorded in history as highly beneficial, and the Natives will, without doubt, long continue to bestow upon him their benedictions. (54) A. D. 1835.

(54) আশীর্ব্বাদ *Āshīrbād.* (Sanscrit.) Benediction, bestowing or wishing a blessing upon others, (আশিস্ a blessing, benediction; and বাদ Speech.)

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